FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-083
Friday
29 April 1988

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-083 *29 April 1988*

CONTENTS

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Twenty-Six Killed in Plane Downing in Angola 1
Castro Presides Over Projects Front Meeting 1
On 'Advantage' of Socialism 1
Castro Visits Injured Youths in Hospital 2
Rodriguez Received by Brazilian Authorities 2
Trade Agreements Signed With Argentina 2
Adviser in Angola on Battle Experiences 2
PCC Conference on Che's Economic Philosophy 3
Soto Closes Conference 3

Dominican Republic

Pena Gomez Comments on Suspension of Projects 3

Haiti

Senate President Accused of Accepting Bribe 4
Nippes Casecs Sworn In; Unsure of Status 5
Vote Results Not Available 5
Further on Vote Results 5
Associations To Demonstrate 5
KID Resists, Denounces Eviction Attempt 5
Member of KID Arrested in Grand Goave 6
Correction on International Democracy Forum 6

Martinique

Commandos Attack RFO Station in Fort-de-France *[Paris]* 7
One Injured 7

MEXICO

De la Madrid Praises Army Antidrug Efforts 8
Bank of Mexico Releases 1987 Report on Economy 8

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador

PDC Leaders on Duarte Candidate Proposal 9
Duarte on Elections, Peace Efforts, Rights *[Madrid YA 23 Apr]* 10

Honduras

Minister on 'Insinuations,' 'Campaign' in U.S. 11

Nicaragua

Ortega Comments on Contra Talks, Peace Efforts 12
Humberto Ortega News Conference on Contra Talks 12
Tinoco Provides Government Proposal on Contra Aid 15
RN's Ferrey Views Upcoming Talks With Sandinists *[San Jose]* 15

Panama

Solis Opens Solidarity Meeting, Raps U.S. 19
Attorney General on Opposition Plans, Arrests 21
Further on Plans 22
Riot Police Disperse Opposition Demonstration 22
2 Wounded in 'Shootout' 23
Msgr McGrath Calls for Solution to Crisis 23
Msgr Brown on Mediation 23
Banking Association Actions Deplored *[MATUTINO 28 Apr]* 24

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Army Meets on Caridi U.S. Trip, Internal Issues 25
New Air Force Materiel Chief Sworn In 25
Vice President Returns From Italy, GDR *[LA PRENSA 27 Apr]* 25
Car Bomb Detonated Outside Army Headquarters 25

Brazil

Nuclebras Head Criticizes Government on Budget *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 27 Apr]* 25
Arab League Group To Request Conference Help *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 27 Apr]* 26
Governments Protest Weapons Sales to Libya *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 27 Apr]* 27

Chile

Minister on 'Campaign' To Discredit Pinochet 27
Supreme Court Rejects Letelier Case Petition 28
Poll: Most Believe Junta To Nominate Pinochet 28

Colombia

3 Soldiers, 10 Rebels Die in Clash Near Caqueta 28
Protesters Leave UN Offices Without Incident *[AFP]* 28

Peru

State of Emergency Extended in Castrovirreyna 28

Cuba

Twenty-Six Killed in Plane Downing in Angola

FL2904011588 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Apr 88

[Text] A sad plane accident occurred in the People's Republic of Angola yesterday 27 April. Twenty-six FAR comrades, including the crew members, were killed when a Cuban plane was mistakenly downed by a Cuban antiaircraft missile defense installation.

The accident took place at 0935, Luanda time, when a Cuban transport AN-26 plane was approaching the Tchamutete Airport in southern Angola. The plane was transporting Cuban military personnel who performed various activities and functions. The personnel included a technical delegation headed by Brigadier General Francisco Cruz Bourzac, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice minister of the Minfar [Cuban Ministry of the FAR] Armament and Technique Directorate. The plane was also carrying Colonel Jorge Izquierdo Quinones, who specialized in the same field; a group of antiaircraft defense officers headed by Lieutenant Colonel Carlos Camilo Alvarez; and a group of FAR officers and political workers.

When the plane, which was flying a scheduled and programmed flight, neared the airport in Tchamutete, the air defense was in position No. 1, because of a state of air alert declared in the region in view of the presence of enemy planes south of Tchamutete.

Under those circumstances, one of the missile installations fired at the approaching plane.

All those on board the plane were killed.

The relatives of those killed in the accident were informed before this note was published.

Although they were casualties inflicted by an accident, those comrades died while carrying out a noble internationalist mission near the racist and fascist South African enemy, which oppresses tens of thousands of human beings and attacks African peoples in southern Africa.

Our FAR, therefore, pays them the homage of those killed in combat.

The most recent South African attack on the Peoples' Republic of Angola has been practically defeated after the setback experienced by the enemy in Cuito Cuanavale and thanks to the bold and uncontrollable movements of the Cuban-Angolan forces in the western flank of the Angolan southern front.

In memory of the brave officers, subofficers, and soldiers fallen in this sad accident, FAR will continue to honorably fulfill its sacred internationalist commitments and will lead the mission assigned by the party and the revolution to its final victory.

Signed, FAR Ministry

28 April 1988

Castro Presides Over Projects Front Meeting

FL2804181888 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, is presiding over the second national meeting of the projects front that began today in Havana's Palace of Conventions.

The meeting is attended by 500 delegates and guests who today will analyze three reports on the dedication to work, aesthetic and functional technical designs, and the saving of material in implementing projects.

A topic discussed in detail during this morning's session was the role of the planner in the efficiency of the projects. [passage omitted]

On 'Advantage' of Socialism

FL2904034088 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, presided over the last session of the second national meeting of the projects front.

The meeting was held today at Havana's Palace of Conventions. Five hundred delegates and guests representing all provinces of the country attended the discussions of the three theses on saving of material, dedication to work and aesthetics, and functional technical designs.

A main subject of the meeting was the relationship that must exist between the planner and the investor in order to obtain more savings when projects are carried out and to have a wider variety of projects. [passage omitted]

[Begin Castro recording] What is, in my opinion, the ideal thing? I am convinced, I have thought about this a lot. It is the combination of the possibilities of a program and plan with the ability to give quick, immediate answers. But we cannot be misled by thinking that there is a perfect plan because we can be misled even more. I have asked, what advantage is there to socialism and what advantage is there to capitalism? It is clear that the greatest advantage that socialism has is the possibility to plan development without clashing with many antagonistic interests in

the society, the possibility to plan development. The possibility to plan, to avoid anarchy and chaos is a great advantage of socialism. [end recording]

Castro Visits Injured Youths in Hospital
FL2804141588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] The female pre-university students of Havana's Saul Delgado School, who were in an accident last week, are in satisfactory condition.

The youths said they were very moved when Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz visited them in the Calixto Garcia Hospital. They said that Fidel expressed an interest in their condition and the attention they received. He also asked them what they would study at the university.

The commander in chief also visited the Fajardo Hospital in Havana where Laura Barrero, another injured student, will be hospitalized for 1 more month until she completely recovers.

These youths will be visited by a group of professors during the next few days so the students can make up the classes they have not been able to attend.

Rodriguez Received by Brazilian Authorities
FL2804134188 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez was warmly received yesterday by the authorities of the Brazilian state of Rio de Janeiro.

The Cuban leader today travels to Brasilia to meet with President Jose Sarney and congressional leaders. He will also be honored at the Brazilian Foreign Ministry.

Trade Agreements Signed With Argentina
FL2804234088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] The trade and financial basis governing trade between Cuba and Argentina has been established in the documents signed by the two countries at the end of the second joint foreign trade commission meeting. The agreements were signed by Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister president of the National Bank of Cuba; Miguel Castillo, vice minister of foreign trade of our country; and (Daniel Verduz), under secretary of industry and commerce of Argentina.

Adviser in Angola on Battle Experiences
FL2704023588 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Interview with Lieutenant Carlos A. Gutierrez Carmona, Cuban political adviser to the 25th People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FAPLA, brigade by unidentified reporter; place, date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Gutierrez Carmona] I am Lieutenant Carlos A. Gutierrez Carmona.

[Reporter] How old are you?

[Gutierrez] I am 26 years old. We were appointed political advisers to the 25th FAPLA brigade. We have never had so many missiles flying over us; tanks, G-5, 160, and the din of the heavy combat. The battle on the 23d was pretty heavy. We were attacked with tanks. There were many tanks and some armored infantry transportation equipment. The missiles went over our heads. We really believed that the infantry missiles... [rephrases] People—the doctor for example, who is a doctor but who is now also a veteran fighter after shooting with the PKM machine gun—performed very well. The cameraman who was with us—Comrade Amado—also gave a good showing.

[Reporter] What kind of experiences did you have in the Cuito Cuanavale battle?

[Gutierrez] Man, that was something else. In school we learned everything on weapons; we underwent an academic military training. In maneuvers you shoot but are never shot at. Here one learns to establish a relation between the combatant and the officer. You become very close to everyone. You really learn to work in very difficult conditions because they have been difficult. When they teach you survival techniques at school, you survive that week and later go home and eat your meal. Here you really have to survive. I believe this is a great school because you put into practice what you really have to do in combat.

[Reporter] How do you feel for being decorated with the medal of the Angolan people and the one conferred by our country?

[Gutierrez] I believe it is an honor I never thought I would receive because one does not work for medals or anything like that. But I was decorated and it is something big for me.

PCC Conference on Che's Economic Philosophy

FL2704220288 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Report by Marta Bared]

[Text] Committee work continues this morning in the second and last day of the theoretical conference on Che's economic philosophy which was organized by decision of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat. The conference is dealing with four major topics: economic management, the cadre's role in economic management, international economic relations, and Cuba's industrialization and economic development.

The current problems of the Cuban economy and the importance of man in the rectification process have been the keynotes of the discussions within the committee debating the role of the cadres involved in managing the economy. Gerardo Gomez, professor of political economics at the PCC's Nico Lopez school, has taken part in drafting the main report on this vital topic. He explains the principal theoretical and practical lessons that Che left behind:

[Begin Gomez recording] Che left us many lessons about cadre policy. To speak only briefly about this topic is a problem. However, we can say that Che not only stressed the importance of cadre policy, not only linked it to the specific problems of the Cuban revolution, not only theorized about these problems, but he also applied very valuable initial expertise in cadre policy to the economic area as regards selection, placement, training—to which he gave exceptional importance—promotion, incentives, etc. In short, he gave special attention to cadre policy in general.

We dealt with a specific aspect. That is, the collective report deals with the qualities and characteristics of cadres. In this we must make particular mention of the exemplarity of cadres. This is a very current issue and has come to the fore recently in the rectification process. We also stressed the importance of cadre discipline. We have seen the mistakes we have made. In many cases, these mistakes are the result of violations of established norms: regulations, laws, etc. We cannot forget that any economic management system is juridically endorsed. If these norms, etc., are not complied with, serious problems are created.

Some of our problems are in fact due to violations of discipline. Therefore, this question is vital. All cadres must observe iron discipline.

Che mentioned many qualities that cadres should possess. For example, he said that cadres should know how to manage others objectively based on their knowledge. He meant that we had to work at bettering ourselves constantly. It was not just a matter of graduating from a school, which is essential, but to keep studying, working, reading; in other words, a constant search for new solutions to the various problems that come up. That is precisely what Fidel is talking about today.

There are great lessons to be learned; there is a total applicability of Che's ideas to cadre policy. [end recording]

A roundtable is scheduled for this afternoon. Commander Che Guevara's principal aides in his daily economic work have been invited to take part in this event.

Soto Closes Conference

FL2904015388 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Lionel Soto, secretary of the PCC Central Committee, has made the closing remarks at the theoretical conference on Che's economic philosophy. Soto referred to the validity of the heroic guerrilla fighter's thinking and to the contribution this meeting will make for the better understanding of his ideas.

[Begin Soto recording] I believe that from the reports that were written and approved by the commissions one can conclude that Che's fundamental philosophy is related to the rectification policy the revolution is carrying out. [end recording]

The result of the commissions' work was also announced during the last session. The final report summarized the results of the debates on the role of leadership, economic management, international economic relations, and Cuba's industrialization and economic development as it is related to Che's economic philosophy and to the need for applying it according to present needs. Without a doubt, it has been an event of great value not only because Che's economic thinking is an inseparable part of our history and development but because the thorough study of his ideas and work methods are inexhaustible sources of experiences which can be used to deal with current problems and the new tasks that lie ahead. [Video shows delegates speaking from podium] [Begin Soto recording, stills of Che Guevara shown while Soto speaks] We want to stress once again the comprehensiveness of Che's philosophy as a set of ideas and its political and ideological relevance. We must keep this in mind when discussing his economic thinking. I believe we can consider this conference a humble tribute to his imperishable work. [end recording]

Dominican Republic

Pena Gomez Comments on Suspension of Projects

FL2804191088 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1119 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez has said that President Balaguer's government will create bigger problems for the country and its economy by suspending work at construction projects as announced. Pena

Gomez, president of one of the factions of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, cited the demolition of a series of barrios razed by the government. On this subject, Pena Gomez stated:

[Begin recording] In heaven's name, why raze Villa Francisca, San Carlos, and Villa Juana barrios when they were middle-class neighborhoods? It was true that some very poor people lived in those barrios, but they paid 20 or 30 pesos in rent. The government's big problem now is that it can't stop these construction projects, because it's going to create a bigger problem [words indistinct]. I would say that what the government should do is not to undertake new projects, but to make a better use of resources. All Dominicans should realize that the Balaguer government will not be able to continue to carry out the projects that it has begun because the reduction of imports will also reduce the taxes the government receives. It will not have the resources to be able to execute all these projects. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Pena Gomez then said:

[Begin recording] It is evident that President Balaguer found himself in a quandry. He either stopped imports or stopped the huge expenditures for luxury, unnecessary imports, as well as for some luxury projects—not all of them, but a lot of them. [passage omitted] As for the barrios, if they had not been demolished, we would not have needed new ones, such as the ones that have sprung up in (Los Alcarrizos) and (Los Guaricanos) built by people who are going to live there forever because the government is not building enough housing to meet the needs of Dominicans. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Pena Gomez urged the government to determine what priority projects can still be built. [passage omitted]

Haiti

Senate President Accused of Accepting Bribe

FL2804212288 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Yesterday there was a stormy and tumultuous argument in the Senate. A proposal by Senator Reynold Georges, supported by eight other senators, that the members of the Senate's Executive Committee be removed immediately was the main bone of contention among Haiti's senators yesterday.

Doubt was cast on the morality of Senate President Louis J. Noisin in connection with the according of benefits to the members of the Executive Committee, which Mr Noisin heads.

Poor administrative management and selling out one's scruples are the principle charges against the accused Executive Committee.

Senator Xavier St Louis, supported by Reynold Georges, yesterday got up to speak several times, making scandalous revelations regarding Senate President Noisin's complacency toward the executive.

The executive reportedly paid Senator Noisin $90,000—a bribe, said Senator Saint-Louis.

In a stormy speech, the senator spoke of a permanent honeymoon between the president of the Senate and the executive, and he echoed public rumors to the effect that the upper chamber has sold out to the executive. Only the deputies are taken seriously by the people, he said.

In view of the accusations made by Senators Georges and St Louis against the members of the Senate's Executive Committee and its president to the effect that the latters' relations with the executive are too friendly and are suspicious, Mrs Mirlande Manigat, who is the second senator for the Department of the West and wife of the president, said, and I quote: The honor of the executive and that of the Senate of the Republic are at stake. She demanded that proof of the senators' allegations be provided.

Senator St Louis's answer: I have before me not a colleague but a defender of the executive. I am being called to account by the first lady.

There were exchanges of strong words among the senators to the point where the Senate's Executive Committee was in danger of breaking up.

Senators Romulus, Larosilliere, and Noisin threatened to resign, and Noisin denied the charges that he has sold out his scruples.

A last-minute speech by Senator Emmanuel Clersaint and the sudden appearance of the president and the first secretary of the Chamber of Deputies put an end to this scandal which almost broke up the Senate yesterday.

In any case, both the accusers and the accused emerged sullied by this memorable session of 27 April 1988. [passage omitted]

Also, the Senate's Executive Committee has received two letters warning it against the morality of some 20 candidates to the Supreme Audit and Administrative Litigation Office who held political or administrative positions under the former regime.

Read in public session, these letters gave rise to a strong reaction from the representative of the northwest, Senator Xavier St Louis, who urged the senators to be prudent and calm. We are no longer in a transitional period, he said. All the racket and the unwarranted denunciations are done with. Can someone be faulted for having been a deputy, etc., under Duvalier?, he asked.

For his part, Senator Emmanuel Clersaint said the letters should be filed away. [passage omitted]

Nippes Casecs Sworn In; Unsure of Status

FL2804170788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Report from Miragoane correspondent Jean Renel Jean-Baptiste]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The members of the Casecs [Administrative Councils for the Communal Sections] from Petite Riviere de Nippes report that the government representative for the administrative section of Nippes, Mr (Rosme Carl Millien), (?had) them and the members of the Anse-a-Veau Casecs take the oath of office.

They ask other government representatives to do the same as well as to ask the Justice Department to tell them if their being administered the oath of office was a bluff.

This note is signed by (?four) Casec associations from Petite Riviere de Nippes.

Vote Results Not Available

FL2804171788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Text] As our correspondent just said, it seems that in several parts of the country, especially in the Nippes area, Casecs are being installed, whereas in Port-au-Prince there are diverse problems being brought up.

The men who participated in the 31 January elections in Carrefour and Gressier report that the Manigat/Celestin government did not get the Casec election results. It seems that Mr Jean Gilbert's CEP [Provisional Electoral Council] did not turn in the 31 January 1988 election results. Thus the question being asked is: On what basis, on the basis of what results, are Casec members being installed in different parts of the country, especially in the Nippes area?

Further on Vote Results

FL2804212588 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1030 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Prime Minister Martial Celestin has received a letter from the Senate asking him to do something about the problem of the Casecs. The results of these elections have as yet not been made public.

Prime Minister Celestin said the whereabouts of the original written record of official proceedings of the Casec election results that was sent to the National Palace last 6 February is to date unknown. They cannot find the results.

The prime minister suggested they summon the former president of the CEP to come and authenticate, before a notary, the copy they sent to the Ministry of the Interior, and that this be done in the presence of the deputies and senators serving as witnesses.

Senate President Dr Louis Noisin has not yet received the senators' endorsement for this proposal.

In this connection, Mr Xavier St Louis asked the assembly to be prudent. We should inform ourselves as to what institution has a copy of the document so we can have it in our possession before the government takes it upon itself to publish the results.

That was the advice given by the representative from the northwest in order to, he said, prevent the government from favoring the RDNP [Assembly of Progressive National Democrats] over other political parties.

Associations To Demonstrate

FL2804212788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Sixteen Casec associations that ran in the 31 January elections have announced they will demonstrate before the legislature on Friday, 29 April.

These 16 Casec associations from the communes of Carrefour and Gressier have written the president of the Senate to announce to him their intention to demonstrate peaceably in front of the legislature on Friday, 29 April, to ask that the results of the Casec elections be published.

They ask the Port-au-Prince police officials' help in ensuring the security of the demonstrators. [passage omitted]

KID Resists, Denounces Eviction Attempt

FL2704154888 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 1600 GMT 26 Apr 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Yesterday afternoon there was an attempt to evict KID [Confederation for Democratic Unity] from its headquarters on the Rue Champ de Mars. A group of men appeared with a document that, according to KID officials, was not at all legal. These men tried to evict the KID officials from their headquarters on the Rue Champ de Mars.

According to Evans Paul, whom we interviewed this morning, KID headquarters belongs to a man named Joseph Sinai. Sinai is a founding member of the committee that later became the KID. The land the building is on belongs to a man who lives abroad. [passage omitted]

KID officials attribute political motives to yesterday's attempt to evict them. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Paul] Well, as I told you, some people came here, saying they were representatives of the Justice Department. They were accompanied by a policeman and came to evict us.

I must tell you that they had already put three-fourths of our things outside when I showed up. I asked them for a copy of the court ruling authorizing them to evict us. They hemmed and hawed and couldn't produce a copy of the ruling. They told me: It exists, but we have to draw up another official record of proceedings. We will give you all this at the same time, and so forth.

I said: No, before you continue evicting us, you must prove to us that you are authorized to do so. Thus things ended up in a standoff, and they left.

But I have to tell you that what we found most strange is that there was no summons beforehand, no prior warning that we might be evicted. Also, the place is supposed to be ours. It belongs to a KID member, Joseph Sinai, who put it at KID's disposal, but he rented the land from someone else. However, even if there were litigation in connection with the land, there would be a lot of arguing, because the building is ours. So this business of coming to evict us like this doesn't make any sense.

I can't tell you why they did it. It is not up to me to accuse myself of anything. It is the people who came to evict us who should give the reasons. They gave no reason.

[Reporter] Who tried to evict you?

[Paul] Civilians and military, one military man accompanied by several civilians, several henchmen. There must have been some 12 of them.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] men from the Justice Department?

[Paul] Ah, they told me there was a judge, a court clerk, and a process server, but I don't know that to be true. I don't know them. I saw people who told me they were judges, but I saw nothing that proved to me that they were judges. They showed me no copy of a ruling. They didn't even identify themselves as being Judge So-and-So. That is why we resisted yesterday's eviction. We found the procedure abnormal.

There is something very important that the people must understand. This is what we are saying in connection with the Constitution and with legality. The biggest danger at present is when people employ allegedly legal means to settle political matters, to fool people, so that they can say that they came legally, accompanied by a justice of the peace. But how did the justice of the peace come? Was the eviction procedure respected? All these details are important. Imagine if this were a simple man of the people, who doesn't know anything at all. They show up and everyone thinks it is normal, thinks it is legal, because there is a justice of the peace present—whereas, in fact, it is not legal, because the proper procedure was not followed. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Member of KID Arrested in Grand Goave

FL2804161688 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 2000 GMT 26 Apr 88

[Report by Evans Paul]

[Excerpts] We just got some urgent news. A friend of ours, a comrade, a militant, a member of KID [Confederation for Democratic Unity] is in trouble in Grand Goave.

This man is a leading member of a local Grand Goave organization called Konbit Kom Il Fo. It is an independent konbit [Haitian tradition of joint, concerted action] for the liberation of our brothers and a KID affiliate.

We were given an urgent report that the authorities showed up at his house this morning, broke the door down, and went inside, arresting him in his underwear and taking him away to jail at the barracks in Grand Goave. They didn't tell anyone why he was being arrested, but the people who came to arrest him did not have a warrant. [passage omitted]

We think we are seeing selective repression of all kinds being carried out here! So we are alerting the public to the case of (Paul Jean-Marie). [passage omitted]

He is always being threatened because he is one of the heads of the democratic movement in Grand Goave. Many people are always threatening him: people who have big interests in the area, people who have ties to bigshots, and even the bigshots themselves. As I told you, he was even attacked recently. He was struck three blows with a club. So this is not the first time. He always has problems because of his political activities there.

Correction on International Democracy Forum

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "International Forum on Democracy Planned," published in the 28 April Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 5:

Column two, pargraph four, line three: ...of Haitian Students], Apesup [Association of University Level Teachers], AEP [Port-au-Prince Teachers Association], and officials from the administration of the faculty... (correcting acronym, supplying expansions)

Martinique

Commandos Attack RFO Station in Fort-de-France

LD281056 Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] The RFO [overseas French Radio and Television] station in Martinique is no longer able to broadcast. All the studios at Fort-de-France were completely ransacked just over an hour ago by eight unidentified male commandos using petrol bombs. For the moment it is not known whether anyone has been injured in addition to the considerable damage that has been done. No one has claimed responsibility yet for this action.

One Injured

FL2904152388 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 29 Apr 88

[Text] A television station in Fort-de-France, Martinique, was attacked by 10 masked men who threw Molotov cocktails and grenades. One technician was slightly injured. The assailants left behind burned-out offices and spray-painted messages on the wall. The attackers were said to be anti-French separatists, members of the May 22d, 1948 underground group.

De la Madrid Praises Army Antidrug Efforts
FL2604031088 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2345 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 19 Apr (NOTIMEX)—Today Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado warmly congratulated and recognized the Mexican Army for its antidrug smuggling activities. In the last few weeks the Army destroyed 24,000 poppy and 4,270 marijuana fields, as well as 3.65 metric tons of poppy seeds.

When he met today with National Defense Secretary Juan Arevalo Gardoqui, the president received two coffers with valuable jewels and a bag with paper money, mainly dollars of several denominations, which were seized during the antidrug trafficking actions carried out throughout the country. [passage omitted]

The total value of the articles seized surpasses 1 billion pesos. The treasure confiscated from several drug traffickers was presented to De la Madrid by the defense secretary when he submitted a report on antidrug smuggling activities carried out by the Armed Forces.

President de la Madrid gave instructions for the seized goods to be turned over to the Mexican Finance Secretariat under the supervision of the Attorney General's Office and the Comptroller General's Office. He gave orders to General Arevalo Gardoqui to promote the most outstanding soldiers who participated in the antidrug smuggling activities. [passage omitted]

Bank of Mexico Releases 1987 Report on Economy
PA2904043388 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Apr 88

[Text] The Bank of Mexico has released the 1987 annual report. The bank reports that the GNP, which had dropped 4 percent in 1986, increased 1.4 percent in 1987. The National Institute of Statistics, Geography, and Information disclosed that various factors were involved, such as an increase of exports, petroleum prices, and private expenses. The Bank of Mexico report also states that the balance of payments showed a favorable balance of $3.88 billion compared to the deficit of $1.67 billion in 1986. The report explains that this change reflects a 24-percent increase in the value of nonpetroleum exports and a 37-percent increase in the value of petroleum exports.

The Bank of Mexico explains that to induce more savings deposits and prevent a flight of capital, interest rates were increased. The bank adds that the causes of the depreciation of the rate of free exchange in 1987 were different from the ones that led to the 1976 and 1982 devaluations. Those devaluations were a result of budget imbalances, while in 1987 the depreciation was the result of a world financial crisis.

El Salvador

PDC Leaders on Duarte Candidate Proposal

PA2804160588 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] This afternoon Christian Democratic leader Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes said he will not give up his fight to become the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] presidential candidate. Rey Prendes also said that Dr Abraham Rodriguez, whom President Duarte proposed as candidate, is not the best candidate for the party because he does not have the support of the masses.

[Rey Prendes] "At this time my decision is to continue as a precandidate so the national convention can decide what is advisable for the party."

Rey Prendes rejected President Duarte's proposal because he thinks the president is mistaken when he said that Rey Prendes is not the best candidate to guarantee the party's unity and win the 1989 presidential elections.

[Rey Prendes] "The first thing I said when I began the news conference was that I do not agree with the statement that I cannot win the elections. If I agreed with that view I would not be a precandidate and instead I would be suicidal because I would be involved in something without any reason. I have entered the race precisely because I have absolute confidence that I can win the elections."

According to Rey Prendes, with only 2 days before the party's congress it is physically impossible for the leadership to convene the convention to suspend this expanded consultation which was agreed upon last week. Quoting the party's bylaws, the PDC leader insisted that the national convention is the only body authorized to decide whether the presidential candidate is nominated on 29 April. He said that neither the Political Committee nor the national leadership and much less a member of the party can make this decision.

[Rey Prendes] "Jose Napoleon Duarte, a member of the party and honorary president of the party, did not ask for the suspension of the congress. What he asked was that the congress not nominate the candidate. However, the congress has the mandate of giving its opinion, and the national convention is the only body that can decide to postpone the election of the president of the Republic [as heard]. No other body can do this because the mechanisms for the convening of the congress have been carried out in accordance with the law. The national convention is the body that makes the decision."

Accompanied by two members of the Political Committee and two of the executive committee who support him, Rey Prendes said that Abraham Rodriguez is not a good contender for these elections because he has not emerged as a proposal from the rank and file but as an alternative suggested by a party member who is honorary party president. Rey Prendes refused to comment on whether U.S. pressures were involved in the president's proposal, as some PDC political opponents claim. Asked about the redistribution of support within the Political Committee a few days ago, Rey Prendes said that he has the support of Deputy Aristides Alvarenga and that he hopes that Roberto Viera, a former associate in the Communications Ministry, will be returning to his ranks.

[Rey Prendes] "He is a young man who analyzed things and was on one side and then moved to the other side, and he has now taken a third position. I hope we will soon have him back with us."

Rey Prendes also told the news conference that this morning he met with President Duarte to explain his views and insist that he will maintain his presidential aspirations.

This morning, five members of the PDC Political Committee expressed support for the candidacy of Dr Abraham Rodriguez as proposed by President Duarte. In a news conference, they appealed to the democratic feelings of Dr Fidel Chavez Mena and Adolfo Rey Prendes to withdraw their candidacies.

[Speaker] "It is not that the president is imposing a decision. This is the result of rationality and the analysis of a group of PDC leaders who have agreed with the president on this position."

In a news conference, Rodolfo Antonio Castillo Claramount, Alejandro Duarte, Aristides Alvarenga, and Roberto Edmundo Viera, who said they also had the support of Aquilino Duarte, stated that the proposal to nominate Dr Abraham Rodriguez as PDC presidential candidate is the result of the call they made to President Duarte to prevent fanaticism and the polarization that has taken place in the party between the supporters of Dr Fidel Chavez Mena and Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes. They said that even though the two precandidates are great politicians, they are endangering the unity of the PDC.

[Speaker] "There must be authentic awareness of the needs of the party and there must be an expression of personal maturity and a noble attitude by Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes and Fidel Chavez Mena at this time. What is the position they must assume? The heroic position of an individual who sets aside his legitimate personal ambitions and sacrifices them to achieve a higher good: the unity of the party to guarantee electoral victory, to guarantee the leadership of the democratic process, and to guarantee that the expectations created by the party and the Salvadoran people will continue to be achieved."

The members of the PDC Political Committee who support Abraham Rodriguez said that they are not proposing a third candidate in the discord. They also requested that neither of the two current precandidates be nominated during the congress and convention to be held on Friday.

[Speaker] "For us, unity is the important thing. We want to prevent division. If we can find a solution, let us do so. This is the basic point. This is why we said that Abraham Rodriguez is not one more candidate to fight for the nomination. No, he is an expression, and perhaps in him we will find what we are seeking. What we want is unity."

The call for awareness was also extended to the PDC rank and file members so that they will accept the nomination of Abraham Rodriguez, who it is said has already agreed to be the PDC unity candidate.

Meanwhile, Dr Fidel Chavez Mena also said he will not withdraw his precandidacy. However, he said he thinks President Duarte's proposal is reasonable. According to Chavez Mena, Dr Rodriguez' candidacy must be submitted for the consideration of the PDC rank and file.

Duarte's formula was not totally opposed by Chavez Mena, who said he agrees with the president when he insists that the presidential candidate should not be nominated in Friday's congress. Nevertheless, Chavez Mena feels that the proposal to nominate Rodriguez as the unity candidate is an alternative about which the party's rank and file should be consulted.

[Chavez Mena] "I want to tell you that in light of the clear expressions of support from the party's rank and file, I am co. vinced that the party's unity can be achieved. I am willing to very reasonably discuss, analyze, and study this point with the president and the other members of the Political Committee."

The PDC leader described the consultation that some members of the Political Committee plan to undertake on 29 April as illegitimate. Chavez Mena and his supporters said they will not attend this congress and that there are mechanisms within the party which permit them to challenge the validity of such an event.

[Chavez Mena] "I think Rey Prendes is stubbornly trying to force a decision on Friday when it is not advisable for the interests of the party or the country, especially in an event that has no political legitimacy or validity."

Chavez Mena commented that President Duarte is acting on the basis of a genuine interest to save the party. He rejected the idea that the formula Duarte announced on television stems from U.S. pressure. He said that as honorary party president, Duarte has the legitimate right to make the proposals he deems appropriate. However, he said that it is up to the rank and file to decide on their advisability.

Duarte on Elections, Peace Efforts, Rights

PM281104 Madrid YA in Spanish 23 Apr 88 p 14

[Interview with President Jose Napoleon Duarte by Juan Fernando Dorrego; date, place not given]

[Excerpt] San Salvador—[Passage omitted] [Dorrego] What is your personal assessment of the election, in which ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] almost gained an absolute majority in parliament?

[Duarte] It is an essential step that we have taken within our conception of democracy. Just this morning I was told that my position was understood, insofar as I made a speech before the campaign and made no further appearances to discuss political topics. It is absolutely true, because I tried to show that democracy means allowing the people to determine their position freely in order to judge and assess the various political formulas offered by the parties. I wanted to show that the strengthening of democracy depends on the sacrifice made by the government and its individual members by adopting a neutral stance and refraining from controversy and the use of any government resources to influence the election result. This is what I did.

[Dorrego] So did you refrain voluntarily from conducting a campaign in support of your own party?

[Duarte] Look, I could have won this election by means of certain measures such as a pay increase or a reduction of bank interest rates before the election. However, my conception of the democratic process depends on not using short-sighted measures.

[Dorrego] What role did the church play in the election?

[Duarte] The church is playing a very important role in what we would call the historic process. Therefore the church did not express an opinion about the election until afterward. This is indeed a good thing because the church can—and does—also play a very important role insofar as one of the most difficult problems in our great national crisis is the crisis of values. Only the church can have the moral authority to determine and establish moral values. I am a supporter of its role in El Salvador.

[Dorrego] What was the significance of the presence of FDR leaders Guillermo Ungo and Ruben Zamora in the country?

[Duarte] Just, 1, 2, or 3 years ago it would have been impossible to announce the arrival of Ungo and Zamora. The most important thing to understand is that in my capacity as president I have created new space. They had the chance to come here and join the process, despite their opposition to it.

[Dorrego] What is your assessment of FDR-FMLN relations?

[Duarte] The FDR's political discourse is one of conspiracy with and support for the FMLN's violent stance. In other words, it is subversive. The document released by Commanders Cienfuegos and Villalobos clearly states that the FMLN forbid the FDR to take part in the election: It says so clearly.

[Dorrego] What are the prospects of an end to the war in El Salvador?

[Duarte] There are two sides to any confrontation. I see three basic ways out of the war. The first is an imposition of the revolutionary and subversive solution. The second is the defeat of subversion. The third is the negotiation of a formula excluding winners and losers. In this country there was a dictatorship that prompted a revolutionary response. In the confrontation between these two blueprints the only solution was a victory by one or the other. Neither of the violent blueprints is valid. We offered a different solution. The solution is observance of the people's will.

[Dorrego] How do you regard ARENA's growing strength and its charges of fraud in the election?

[Duarte] The right's stratagems to manipulate the electoral process present a threat. The danger is of a return to the 1979 situation. This is why I am striving to make democracy irreversible, because the democratic framework is Marxists' greatest enemy. I am not concerned whether the right wins or loses. It is not the process that wins or loses. I do not view matters in such simple terms as an end to the war or the allocation of ministerial posts. The basic issue concerns a political and historical blueprint. This is why the left is combating more than the right, because we are the real barrier to Marxist totalitarianism.

[Dorrego] What is the main achievement of today's new El Salvador?

[Duarte] From the political viewpoint there is now an official democracy that has changed the political process. We have made the social changes irreversible and have made progress. The agrarian reform has established itself. Progress is being made in social participation by peasants and workers. Our inflation rate now is 19.6 percent, compared to a Latin American average of 168 percent. It must be borne in mind that this country has behind it a rate of economic decline that fell to 27 percent. Last year we had a growth rate of 2.6 percent, and the indicators suggest that this year it will be approximately 5 percent. In 1983 the guerrilla rising was at its height. The year 1984 saw the start of a policy that has altered the situation. Now we hold the political and military initiative in the country.

[Dorrego] What is the present human rights situation in El Salvador?

[Duarte] We have made progress in this field, because you must remember the scale of the death squad problem in 1983. There are a few cases now, but they are isolated instances that have the approval of neither the government nor the Armed Forces. Both the government and the Armed Forces are convinced that the democratic process depends on human rights observance.

[Dorrego] So is your overall assessment positive?

[Duarte] I have serious problems because my country is in a state of crisis. I inherited a crisis, and to deny this would be to disregard the facts. However, this government is doing what it must to meet the obligations of its historic role.

[Dorrego] How do you view the Esquipulas II agreement, and what has it meant to El Salvador?

[Duarte] Zamora and Ungo would never have returned to El Salvador had the agreement not been signed. I would not have taken the step of a total amnesty without the support of this agreement. As far as I am concerned, it is a living and historic blueprint that represents Central America's second independence charter.

[Dorrego] Last, Mr President, what will be the importance to El Salvador of the coming presidential election?

[Duarte] It will play a crucial role, because we will never cease our struggle for these colors. Whether we win or lose, we must continue. The people are capable of forming their own judgments; otherwise democracy would not make sense. This is my role. I will continue the struggle, whether in government, opposition, or exile.

Honduras

Minister on 'Insinuations,' 'Campaign' in U.S.

PA2804221288 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Communique issued by the Foreign Ministry Press and Information Directorate on 27 April]

[Text] The Foreign Relations Secretariat informs the Honduran people that on 26 April, the Honduran foreign minister sent a note to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz regarding recent incidents in the country that resulted in property damage to the U.S. Consulate in Tegucigalpa.

The note begins by condemning those actions, stating that they were not only caused by the Matta Ballesteros case but were the result of actions provoked by agitators who were undoubtedly encouraged by demonstrations held in several American cities criticizing U.S. policy toward Central America.

It is easy to conclude that the real objective sought by many of the demonstrators was having the assault on the U.S. Consulate end with people dead or wounded by the Honduran authorities or by the embassy's security agents. When this attempt failed, they unsuccessfuly tried to create their own martyrs by killing two demonstrators and wounding several others.

In view of the circumstances, we had to decide between carrying out a quick police action or replying with caution and prudence, as we have done under similar circumstances in the past to avoid having the government fall into the trap clearly set by the criminals.

The authorities chose the second alternative, thus avoiding falling into the violence that is striking neighboring countries. A quick police action would have undoubtedly caused bloodshed and incalculable economic, social, and political consequences. It would have also endangered relations between the United States and Honduras.

We admit and regret the magnitude of the property damage caused to the U.S. Consulate, but we reject insinuations that there was bad faith or deliberate neglect on the part of the Honduran police [words indistinct] protection [words indistinct] their actions avoided damage of larger consequences.

In addition, we recall that the Honduran Government has not only condemned drug trafficking, but has also adopted measures leading to arrests and confiscation of large quantities of drugs.

Twenty distinguished U.S. senators [words indistinct] both of the Republican and Democratic Parties recognized the Honduran Government's measures against drug trafficking in a message addressed to the Honduran president in [name indistinct] on 15 April. The U.S. senators expressed their solidarity with and support for the Honduran struggle against drug trafficking.

We also want to express our surprise over the strong campaign of discreditation and slander launched against the Honduran Government and Armed Forces through U.S. papers.

The fact that the U.S. Government decided to declare Honduras a high-risk country, thus placing it at the same level as its enemies, is equally incomprehensible.

In addition to causing justified anger, that action is also causing serious moral and economic problems in the country.

The aforementioned actions destabilize the cordial and advantageous relations between the two countries, especially in the fields of economic, political, and security cooperation, which include the temporary presence of U.S. troops at Honduran military installations. The aforementioned actions, therefore, must be discussed more carefully.

[Words indistinct] 27 April 1988.

[Signed] Foreign Ministry Press and Infomation Directorate

Nicaragua

Ortega Comments on Contra Talks, Peace Efforts

PA2804135788 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, at the dedication of the Benjamin Linder Park, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega spoke about the renewal of talks between the constitutional government of Nicaragua and the counterrevolutionary leadership. These talks are scheduled for today, 28 April.

The president reaffirmed the government's desire to reach a definite cease-fire.

[Begin Ortega recording] We want that, and that is what was signed in Sapoa. If there is goodwill for peace in Nicaragua, it can be secured. It can be done. There has to be this will, this goodwill, on both sides—the Nicaraguan Government and the contras—and this will will become evident in our position on reaching a total agreement. [end recording]

President Ortega also commented on internal divisions among the counterrevolutionaries.

[Begin Ortega recording] The Reagan administration continues supporting warmongering positions and Bermudez' group of former Somozist guards. Mr Abrams has met with them to exert influence and to kill the Sapoa agreement, just as they wanted to kill the Esquipulas agreement.

We hope the desire for peace will prevail over the policy that the Reagan administration is promoting. We have the obligation to continue making our best effort to achieve peace. Tomorrow we will talk again with the contras to secure a definite cease-fire. We will be talking with Calero and the entire so-called directorate of the contras. [end recording]

Humberto Ortega News Conference on Contra Talks

PA2804191288 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1620 GMT 28 Apr 88

[News conference with Defense Minister Humberto Ortega at the Camino Real Hotel in Managua with national and international journalists;live—broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Ortega] ...in that sense, some contacts prior to today's meeting took place. In these previous contacts, we continued to present our positions in order to achieve a negotiated and definitive cease-fire agreement as the Sapoa agreement establishes.

In recent days, a number of political events have taken place which objectively hinder the process of achieving a definitive cease-fire agreement. As a result, our government reiterates its willingness to undertake all necessary efforts so that, with that same sense of responsibility, the signatories of the Sapoa agreement and our government can overcome the difficulties and make sure that the Sapoa agreement will not be reversed. On this complex path, we can achieve the fundamental objective of the Sapoa agreement, which is to achieve a definitive cease-fire. With this we would achieve the end of the current war of aggression that the United States maintains against Nicaragua and we would consequently have more possibilities for strengthening the other tasks of the revolution within the framework of a mixed economy and political pluralism. We would be able to strengthen the construction of the democratic regime that Nicaragua has been building during these difficult years.

At this time, the most important problem we see is the position of the warmongers and the current U.S. Administration against the achievement of any agreement and the division that the Sapoa agreement has caused within the counterrevolutionary forces. This does not permit greater coherence in their coalition because of the controversy over objectives. We hope that the sectors whose actions are more consistent with the Sapoa agreement will be able to prevail over these warmongering forces that neither before nor after the Sapoa agreement have wanted peace in Nicaragua. They basically want to maintain a militaristic policy which would permit the United States to more directly participate in the conflict with its own forces to destroy the revolution and oust the revolutionary government.

Those warmongering positions are the most important problem that we find on this path to positively developing the Sapoa agreement. We believe that even though the path is still complex and difficult because of the various problems still to be resolved, we are moving on this path.

We have considered it appropriate to propose to the counterrevolutionary directorate at these meetings our government's willingness to extend for another 30 days the cessation of offensive operations to recover the time lost due to the problems that have arisen. Without the time pressure, we will soon be able to resolve the various aspects we have yet been unable to resolve but that through a joint effort can be solved. We are really thinking about peace. We really believe that we are involved in an effort to achieve a definitive cease-fire and to achieve peace for our people. Concerning the cessation of offensive operations that ends next month, practically by 1 June, we would be willing to extend this 1 more month because we think that in this way we would have more time and less pressure to resolve the problems we still face. This is, in general terms, what we wanted to tell you. We are ready to answer your questions now, before the meeting begins.

[Saldivar] General, I am Hector Saldivar, of LA JORNADA, Mexico. You have mentioned warmongering sectors and sectors that supposedly are more in line with the Sapoa agreement. You have also mentioned objective difficulties. Has the source of these difficulties been identified?

[Ortega] It has. We have said this before. Counterrevolutionary sectors led by Enrique Bermudez apparently are trying to give the impression that they back the contra directorate, that they have no conflicts with it. Those sectors, however, are trying all the time to boycott the negotiation effort. The thing is that they cannot openly oppose the Sapoa agreement or ignore it because the forces that do not want peace would have to pay a very high political price for such a position.

What they are trying to do is to come to these meetings with an apparent spirit of negotiation, but their goal is not to contribute to a solution but rather to create obstacles, to set traps, and to promote delays so that no definite agreement can be reached. This is what is happening. We have also been informed of the orders Bermudez has issued to his forces in the interior of the country. He has ordered them to attack EPS members trying to establish contact with the contra forces, and some contacts have been made. The Bermudez supporters are afraid that their forces may become aware of the fair position of the Nicaraguan Government and of the fairness that the Sapoa agreement demands for the sake of peace.

The Bermudez sector has issued orders to its forces in the interior to be prepared to unleash war with more intensity than before at a given moment. The Bermudez sector, a most recalcitrant sector composed of former Somozist guards, simply cannot openly ignore the Sapoa agreement, and is trying to participate in the negotiations process to continuously boycott the possibilities of reaching an agreement.

However, the power of reason and truth is so great that we believe that correct positions will win, that correct positions of the government and the directorate in favor of finding a negotiated solution to the conflict will win. When reason is on your side, there is nothing to fear. In our contacts with them, some of them have seen the truth more clearly, but those who do not want to see the truth are opposing these meetings. In past meetings, we met with people such as Tono and Fernando—people who are no longer in the most important military structures being led by Bermudez—the person who controls the military structure of the so-called resistance.

This is the objective situation. It is true that it is a problem. However, we have the obligation, as a government, to make whatever efforts are necessary to lead these elements, also, to the path of negotiation and peace. This, of course, will be difficult to do.

[Lopez] Orlando Lopez, of the the Nicaraguan news program on Radio Mundial. The construction workers began an indefinite strike this past Monday. On Tuesday the national dialogue was broken off. Yesterday the workers' strike was repressed by the Sandinist Police. What will happen today? Bermudez has said that the Sandinists do not want a cease-fire. What do you think about this?

[Ortega] The Bermudez and the CIA sectors that are present in the national dialogue have made every possible effort to prevent any progress from being made. They are making time for the participation of the mercenary forces in this dialogue, if an agreement is reached.

Their main objective, however, is to shatter whatever forum serves to discuss problems in a nonviolent framework. This is their main objective in their efforts to disrupt the national dialogue.

Regarding the strike, this is a labor problem. Strikes exist in all countries such as ours. Efforts have been made to give it a political tint to blackmail the revolutionary government.

In reality, I believe the positions stated by those of us who signed the Sapoa agreements are present at the current meeting. Despite contradictions, we have been struggling to achieve a negotiated peace agreement—despite the positions of those who, as was mentioned earlier, did not before or after Sapoa want to reach an agreement under the conditions established at Sapoa. What Bermudez and the Democratic Coordinating Board seek in the national dialogue is not negotiation but surrender by the revolutionary government, a change in the democratic and revolutionary content that has been created in Nicaragua since the triumph of the Sandinist revolution; they want the Sandinists to relinquish power so they can very easily take power and dispose of all the Sandinists. This is what Bermudez wants; it is what the Democratic Coordinating Board wants; and it is what the most reactionary right-wing sectors participating in the national dialogue expect. In this sense, we are faced with a contradiction, and I believe that those who signed the Sapoa agreements are committed before Nicaragua and the world to oppose these forces and sectors that do not want Sapoa to move forward.

[Reporter] Yesterday, the counterrevolutionary delegation spoke of partially discussing a definite cease-fire, blocking a global discussion as stated by the Nicaraguan Government. What position will the Nicaraguan delegation adopt to prevent this from becoming a stumbling block—in other words, how will you handle the issues of humanitarian aid, democratization, and definite cease-fire on one hand; and on the other, the Honduran Army has been talking about incidents [word indistinct]. What information have you in this regard?

[Ortega] I have already been informed of the proposal, and I feel that every agreement must fall within the context of Sapoa; in other words, any agreement must be integral, not half-baked. This would allow us to make room for the warmongering sectors, the sectors that do not want peace and are determined to sabotage every step toward achieving peace. Those sectors could not impose their position on the Sapoa agreement signed on 23 March, but they have been seeking ways to be involved at every moment and in every forum where an agreement could be reached—but only to prevent an agreement. It is because of the counterrevolutionaries' divisions, incoherent statements, and contradictions that more than ever—and especially because of the contradictions that have developed over the past few days, which even include dead mercenaries—that the Nicaraguan Government position of seeking an agreement to continue the process to the end is justifiable.

No government in the world would sign a partial agreement. That would not be responsible, and it is not the attitude of a responsible government.

As I said, this position is justified precisely because we need a clear guarantee that the signatories are committed to follow through. What the government is doing through the negotiations is giving the necessaary guarantees for the modus operandi and other aspects so they can feel their demands for security are being respected, and guaranteeing their participation in the political process in order to strengthen the democratic regime we are already developing in the country.

In other words, we maintain our position that we must discuss everything literally and that we should arrive at an overall agreement that should culminate with the discussion of a definitive cease-fire. We believe this position, which is reasonable, cannot be changed.

Regarding the situation in Honduras, we have learned that there have been clashes between contras of the Yatama rebel group and the Honduran Army in the Honduran northern Atlantic sector, and that these reports are being repressed. We know that these reports are true.

[Reporter] I am [name indistinct] of the Parisian daily [name indistinct]. Internal contradictions—as you described them—within the counterrevolutionary groups have been reported during the past 10 days. In this regard, what is the current correlation of forces of the contra delegation. Also, do you know about talks between the contra directorate and Abrams in Miami?

[Ortega] Regarding Abrams: Without having an agent present at that meeting or installing microphones over there in Miami, we already know what he had to say to the contra leaders. We know in advance what an Abrams speech or a speech by the Reagan administration will be. It will be a speech aimed at preventing any agreement and trying to blame the Sandinists for a collapse of the

Sapoa agreement. They are still hoping that the U.S. Congress will approve a resumption of military aid by blaming the Sandinists for the failure of the Sapoa agreement. Therefore, it is not difficult to guess what Abrams discussed with the contra leaders. It is not difficult either to guess what Vernon Walters has been proposing in South America regarding Panama. He is seeking a Latin American consensus to meddle in Panamanian domestic affairs and thereby impose its interventionist policy on the Panamanian people.

In this regard, we must be aware that in the current correlation within the contra directorate, the sector of former Somozist guards headed by Colonel Bermudez has great influence. However, we will not be discouraged by this. We will continue with our efforts to ensure that the directorate and the top leadership—even Bermudez himself—comply with the commitment signed by the directorate with the Nicaraguan Government in Sapoa.

It is going to be difficult, but we are going to walk in that direction. We know they will try to boycott our plan, but we will try to assert peace.

Other counterrevolutionary leaders such as Tony Fernandez, whom we had not met previously, have already started to search for peace based on the proposals and positions presented at Sapoa by the government and the directorate. Reason prevails when it stands behind a cause and, thus, even if these military chiefs are very difficult, sooner or later it will predominate.

The military course will continue if reason does not prevail. This course has taken these counterrevolutionaries to the strategic network process where they are presently positioned. They do not want to proceed along the road to peace but prefer to continue as a mercenary force and continue trying to get more action from the U.S. Government to defeat the Sandinist government.

[Reporter] The counterrevolutionaries have not respected the Sapoa agreements. The Honduran Government continues its noncompliance with Esquipulas II. Yesterday, the first planes with supplies arrived in Honduras. A press release even adds that a plane was loaded with military uniforms, boots, and caps. This is one comment. Also, could the fact that the entire counterrevolutionary directorate and their military command staff are attending these negotiations mean they have decided to take a new and positive stand?

[Ortega] We shall find out in the next few minutes; in the next few hours, we will find out what their position is. We continue with the position that the Sapoa agreements must be abided. All these problems in Honduras are just a reaffirmation of the U.S. Government's irresponsible position of obstructing the negotiating process. We have to have patience, and when we run out of patience, we have to continue looking for it—if we are responsible, consider the good of the people, and want to end this war. Of course, our people's patience does have a limit, but as their leaders, we have to continue trying, which is why we are proposing an additional month of cease-fire. We do not want to extend the period indefinitely but do believe that a month is a reasonable amount of time to attain definite peace. We have to go now. We will speak to you later.

Tinoco Provides Government Proposal on Contra Aid

PA2904011088 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2239 GMT 28 Apr 88

[News conference with Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco at the Camino Real Hotel in Managua—live]

[Text] You all know that in this effort to achieve peace—this effort to achieve a permanent cease-fire—there have been two stands that have not been reconciled by the two parties. The Nicaraguan Government has been bringing up the need to reach a joint agreement that will culminate in a permanent cease-fire that will end the irregular forces' rebellion; that is, a joint agreement that would be signed as a single agreement, although obviously it would have to be carried out in stages. The first stage refers to the zones and supplies, the second stage refers to the national dialogue problems, and the third stage is the irregular forces rejoining national political life when they give up their rebellion.

You all know that the irregular forces—the representatives of the contras—have stated here that they do not want a joint agreement, but they want to sign a document on the first part of the agreements. That problem has been hindering us; it has been hindering our progress. In view of that situation and because Nicaragua has been trying to get a joint agreement signed, some representatives of the irregular forces have begun to argue on the international level that the Nicaraguan Government did not want to sign an agreement so the irregular forces—the contra forces—would not receive their supplies. They claim the government wants to starve the irregular forces to death, and that is why, according to them, the government was proposing a joint agreement.

Since obviously that is not the spirit of the Nicaraguan Government, which instead is proposing an overall agreement to make sure the rebellion will end, and because we do not intend to affect the provision of supplies to the irregular forces, General Humberto Ortega a few minutes ago presented to the irregular forces' delegation a proposal for immediately solving the issue of the supplies to the irregular forces. I will now read the proposal:

Special agreement between the constitutional government of Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] for the supply of humanitarian assistance to the irregular forces of the RN:

Within the framework of the Sapoa agreements, signed on 23 March 1988, within the process of an overall negotiation for achieving a permanent cease-fire, and in an effort to facilitate the Nicaraguan peace process, which will reestablish peace and national reconciliation among Nicaraguans as a result of the end of the war and the participation of all Nicaraguans in the consolidation of democracy in Nicaragua, the constitutional government of Nicaragua—represented by Defense Minister Gen Humberto Ortega Saavedra—and the RN—represented by whomever it appoints—in an effort to ensure the irregular forces receive their food and basic supplies, according to Point 4 of the Sapoa agreement, hereby agree that:

1. The International Red Cross [IRC] will be asked to immediately take over the distribution of humanitarian assistance within Nicaraguan territory to the RN irregular forces as soon as this agreement is signed and until 30 May 1988.

2. The supplies of humanitarian assistance will include food, clothing, medical services, medical supplies, and blankets.

3. The supplies may be distributed by land, air, sea, and river. Only transportation means carrying the IRC insignia may be used.

4. The number of irregular forces personnel who will receive the humanitarian assistance will be reported to the IRC by the RN commands.

5. The humanitarian assistance will be distributed in the following places: Quilali, San Jose de Bocay, (Kostaguash), La Pinuela, La Fonseca, (Diwaskarma), and (Alanikamba).

6. The document entitled, quote, Conditions and Actions of the IRC Within the Framework of the Humanitarian Assistance to the RN Irregular Forces, unquote, is part of this agreement. This is an IRC document that will be read later.

7. In compliance with Points 3 and 15 of the abovementioned document—the IRC document—the verification commission established by point 9 of the Sapoa agreement, which specifies technical assistance and the necessary services of this commission that allow and accelerate the compliance, followup, and verification of this agreement, will be requested from the OAS secretary general; and this verification commission will immediately begin its work. To this effect, it will coordinate with the IRC.

8. To carry out this agreement, the constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the RN will agree on additional procedures and operations with the IRC.

9. The constitutional government of Nicaragua and the RN will commit themselves to offer all necessary support to the IRC so it can carry out its task of distributing humanitarian assistance to the RN irregular forces.

The undersigned sign this agreement in the city of Managua, capital of the republic, on 29 April 1988.

The annex document—the IRC document—that this agreement refers to reads as follows:

Conditions and Actions of the IRC Within the Framework of the Humanitarian Assistance to the RN irregular forces:

1. The two parties in conflict should present a request for formal assistance that should be part of a peace process.

2. The cease-fire agreement should completely encompass both parties in the conflict, or there should be sufficient elements available that will allow judging that this is a true process seeking peace.

3. All [10-second break in reception] that would clearly determine the duration of the [words indistinct], and if possible at the locations of the distribution of humanitarian assistance. As you know, this is already included in the proposal. It specifies that this is to be accomplished by 30 May and mentions the places.

5. [Number as heard] The achievement of [words indistinst] by one of the parties.

6. The IRC [12-second break in reception] of the IRC that would call on the international community for food, medical assistance, personal hygiene articles, and eventually blankets, mosquito tents, and field tents, excluding all military articles. This would be exclusively humanitarian assistance.

8. [Number as heard] The distribution centers where the IRC would distribute the assistance would be notified based on the agreement signed by the two parties.

9. The IRC will be advised through the appropriate channel of the number of troops to receive humanitarian assistance benefits. The IRC would not participate at all, nor would it be responsible, in the event there would be any [word indistinct] measures by the troops. The information on the volume of the necessary assistance would be supplied to the IRC, according to the methods accepted within the framework of the cease-fire agreement of the two parties.

10. The transportation of the assistance would be at brief intervals—if possible, once a week.

11. Concerning medical assistance, an IRC doctor would evaluate the needs for medical supplies and then would decide, together with the troops' doctors, the type and amount of medical assistance that would be provided.

/

12. Concerning the evacuation of the sick and wounded, the IRC would request the Nicaraguan Government to provide safeconduct passes and entry to a Managua hospital of the RN fighters who are seriously sick or wounded. The IRC doctor would be the only one to decide on the evacuation.

13. IRC medical personnel could have access to the hospitalized patients every day.

14. At the end of the hospitalization period, the IRC would take the patients to the withdrawal area or the patient could return to civilian life. The patient's will would be respected. The IRC would always act in the patient's interest.

15. The International Cease-Fire Verification Commission would ensure that the hospitalized patients are safe.

16. The IRC would not take any stand regarding possible cease-fire violations or other related events, in accordance with its duty to be discreet and according to its principles of neutrality and impartiality.

17. In case the cease-fire fails, the IRC would retain its right for humanitarian aid and would intercede for people who are no longer engaged in hostilities. These are protected people, according to Article 3, which is common to the four Geneva conventions.

18. In the framework of this operation, as in all its activities, the IRC would act according to its usual principles and procedures.

This is the proposal and the attached IRC document that the Nicaraguan delegation presented to the irregular forces delegation this afternoon. We have deemed it pertinent to make this proposal known to you because we think it confirms the Nicaraguan Government's disposition to work seriously for an in-depth solution of this problem, to enact a definitive cease-fire, so the irregulars can return to civilian life. This would be a serious solution, even if for several reasons the humanitarian aid issue is being slightly delayed for the moment. This would represent a solution, and we could then go on working on other areas. Do you have any questions?

[Reporter] Does the government think this proposal you have presented to the contras [words indistinct] that they are not refugees and that, therefore, they do not accept [words indistinct] can become disentangled? If it does, what would be the next step in these talks?

[Tinoco] There is a difference here. When I mentioned the IRC at other times, it was in the framework of the agreements, whereby they would enter an area. Here we speak of humanitarian aid as supplied by the IRC, which could begin tomorrow at the sites where the irregulars are located. This is a quicker, more practical, and expeditious procedure for solving this problem, which is a problem of food. Someone has been trying to manipulate it to harm the Sapoa agreements. We are trying to solve this problem. We do not know if they will accept this proposal or not, but they asked for time to consider the proposal. We (?expect) a reply to this proposal.

[Reporter] If this proposal were accepted, what would be the next steps in the framework of the Sapoa agreements regarding the cease-fire zones and the release of the contras?

[Tinoco] Negotiations over these aspects have continued. I think this agreement would be to solve what has been presented here, supposedly a problem of food. The government offers an immediate, provisional solution. We could reach a more definite agreement later with different mechanisms. Such an agreement would deal with the problems of democratization and the laying down of arms. If this agreement can be signed tomorrow, and this aid can begin to flow through the IRC, we could go on to discuss the other pending issues.

[Reporter] Is the humanitarian aid we are talking about the humanitarian aid the U.S. Congress has just approved? President Ortega has said that now that the White House has resumed the economic boycott against Nicaragua, the cut in aid has to be indiscriminate, both for the Nicaraguan Government and Nicaragua's enemies. How does this fit in with the government's forbidding the aid, the press, the opposition parties, and the contras? [sentence as heard].

[Tinoco] President Ortega clarified this a couple of days ago. He never said the unjustified embargo imposed by the Reagan administration has anything to do with the humanitarian aid within the framework of the Sapoa agreements. He did say, however, that a U.S. embargo against the Nicaraguan people does not affect the political minorities that play along with this U.S. policy. We refer to political minorities that operate in the civilian field, that receive this aid, and that do not suffer from this embargo. But this does not have anything to do with the Sapoa agreements. This is the clarification required.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] that the 30-day extension can also be approved within the discussion.

[Tinoco] During the talks, someone said: If Sapoa has one clear outcome, it is that, as offensive operations cease, a number of Nicaraguans are not being killed who otherwise would be. The idea of an extension primarily has to do with this humanitarian aspect: that extending the period of the cessation of offensive operations saves lives. It also is true, however, that the more important aspects, which have to do with Sapoa, such as laying down arms and the national dialogue, are complex and difficult and will take time. Even if we could agree on all of this, we would still need this extension to apply this agreement. The Nicaraguan Government proposal aims to facilitate the work.

[Reporter] A clarification: I understand the aid contemplated in the proposal presented this afternoon does not have anything to do with the U.S. Congress-approved aid or any other aid. It would be IRC aid. So, what role would be played by the aid approved by the U.S. Congress, if any, according to the government?

[Tinoco] According to the proposal and the IRC rules, Nicaragua requests cooperation from the international community. I do not believe that what the U.S. Congress has approved is excluded from the proposal.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] channel those more than $17 million through the IRC?

[Tinoco] I do not think the IRC has any trouble with that.

[Reporter] What is the relationship between the aid the contras are now receiving in Honduras and the aid to be channeled through the IRC?

[Tinoco] I beg your pardon?

[Reporter] What is the relationship between the aid the contras are now receiving in Honduras and the aid they will receive through the IRC?

[Tinoco] The U.S. aid to the contras through the AID and the Honduran Government is completely contrary to the letter and spirit of the Sapoa agreements. That is why we have protested this aid. We are proposing aid through the IRC within the framework of the Sapoa agreements. We are proposing aid through the IRC, which no one can call a biased organization. The IRC is trying to solve this food problem.

[Reporter] How can Nicaragua settle what is happening in Honduras at this time? What will Nicaragua do?

[Tinoco] Of course, Nicaragua will keep protesting to the Honduran and U.S. Governments over the violation of the Sapoa agreements.

[Reporter] Is it true you met with Abrams 2 days ago?

[Tinoco] No, it is not true. I have not seen him. All right, thank you very much.

RN's Ferrey Views Upcoming Talks With Sandinists
PA2704212588 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1845 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Interview with Nicaraguan Resistance member Roberto Ferrey by Alejandro Acevedo; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Acevedo] The Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members have left for the new talks at the Camino Real Hotel where, like last week, they will be confined, controlled, and virtually held hostage by the Sandinist regime. [passage omitted]

Roberto Ferrey, how does the RN view the new round of talks with the Sandinist dictatorship?

[Ferrey]) I think one has to be realistic now. The circumstances indicate that the situation is quite different from that of 15 April. We were optimistic on 15 April. The belief then was that a number of situations would be resolved in Managua and that there would be progress with the implementation of the Sapoa agreements. For the RN, the situation at this moment is that the Sapoa agreements must be complied with. Compliance with the agreement means covering the stages it established. The basic, fundamental stage is the approval of the modus operandi that will apply to the various zones where the RN troops will be located.

We have not yet reached agreement on the modus operandi. Apparently, the FSLN regrets signing the Sapoa agreement, because the agreement expedited the approval of new humanitarian aid to the RN. The Sandinists apparently see the approval of this aid as preventing the RN forces from being destroyed, divided, or disbanded, so to speak. At this moment, the Sandinists are trying every means to delay the delivery of food, clothing, and medicine to the RN forces.

This is the situation at this moment, and that is why the Sandinists are now presenting what they dub as a response, an overall agreement that involves a permanent cease-fire. It means overcoming or, better put, skipping stages rather than advancing according to the Sapoa agreements, which is a process that advances stage by stage. They want to jump to the last stage, which consists of putting an end to the war, but without establishing the required conditions to achieve democracy.

I am going to use a phrase by an exiled newsman. He asked: How will I return home when the beast that made me leave is still there? The Sandinists want a permanent cease-fire agreement to be signed without establishing the conditions to end the causes of the war. The RN insists that what was agreed to in Sapoa was a temporary truce, or a halt to offensive military operations for 60 days, during which the Sandinists would demonstrate their intention to make a change and to break up the triumvirate that is a tragedy for Nicaragua. This triumvirate is the oneness of the state, the party, and the army. This triumvirate existed during the Somoza period, and thousands of us Nicaraguans struggled and died to break it up. Somoza was president of the Liberal Party, chief of the National Guard, and head of state. He had his brother as second in command.

Now, Mr Ortega is a member of the FSLN Directorate. He is head of the Executive Branch, and his brother is the EPS chief. There is total confusion, as they were told during the talks. With whom is the RN talking? With the Sandinist party, with the Nicaraguan Government, or with the EPS?

Panama

Solis Opens Solidarity Meeting, Raps U.S.

PA2804202088 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1626 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Speech by Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, opening international trade union meeting of solidarity with Panama at the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Text] Honorable Ibrahim Zakariya, representative of the WFTU; Hector Aleman, secretary general of FENASEP [National Federation of Association of Public Employees]; Alvaro Munoz, coordinator of CONATO [National Council of Organized Workers]; Mauro Murillo, representative of the People's Unity Front [FUP]; Julio Bermudez, secretary general of CONAC [National Confederation of Peasant Settlements]; Alvaro Munoz, coordinator of CONATO [repeats name]; ministers; legislators; directors and deputy directors of autonomous institutions; deputy ministers; mayor of San Miguelito District; delegates from Latin America, Europe, Asia, and Africa; special guests; news media representatives; ladies and gentlemen:

First of all I want to express my warmest welcome to our country to the leaders and representatives of more than 400 million workers of all continents, organized in trade unions and present at this significant trade union meeting of solidarity with Panama.

The Panamanian people and my government, subjected to merciless U.S. aggression, deeply appreciate and are grateful for this tangible demonstration of solidarity and support from the world's workers, who are present in our country through the distinguished delegates of the WFTU who have been gathered here by the FUP. [applause] Your presence in Panama, in addition to being a great honor for us, will permit you to confirm the reality of a people who demand respect for their rights and the recognition of their dignity. Those tarnished rights are their capacity to decide their form of democratic government, their right to economic prosperity, and their right to work.

What is the democracy to which we aspire? There are two fundamental aspects of democracy: the real and the formal aspects. There is no democracy with only one of those aspects. But most important, there is no democracy if we only pay attention to the formal aspects. It is essential that there be a democracy that involves and carries out the real aspects of that democracy. We have talked about democratic intensification. This intensification of democracy is included in my government's and my own concepts about the meaning of democracy. There can be no full democracy if part of the city, if some of the residents of both the cities and countryside do not have food. There can be no democracy if a majority of the country's population does not have clothing. There can be no democracy if the majority of the population does not have real education opportunities. There can be no democracy if the majority of the population does not have adequate health and medical attention. There can be no full democracy if the majority or part of the population does not have employnment.

In news conferences I am always asked—and I understand why this is so—whether we are going to keep the news media closed or when we are going to open them. But none of the journalists—and I am not criticizing them, I am simply pointing this out—ask me when the Panamanian people are going to have food, clothing, education, and employment. [applause]

Gentlemen, I know I cannot give immediate answers to these questions, but in our hearts and objectives we want to achieve these things, and I will answer those questions with whatever we have available with great emotion. However, I have my reservations about the other question, not because I do not believe in the means of expression, not because I do not believe in freedom of expression, and not because I do not believe in free elections. I believe in them. I have struggled all my life for them, but I want a press that will struggle for the well-being of the people and not maintain the enslavement of my fatherland. [applause]

I want an electoral process that is free, far-reaching, pure, and honest; but not one to be won by people who will maintain the poverty of the people and the privileges of their homes. Not that! Democracy is for the majority of Panamanians. [applause]

Let us talk about food. The people of Panama will strive for that. As I said before, there is always a silver lining. This economic aggression has taught us many things. It has taught us that we can feed the majority of the Panamanian people with very little effort. It is not impossible! Food bags, the people's markets, the government's supply markets have shown that if we just spent 1 million balboas every month to take care of the poverty and hunger of the Panamanian people, we could take care of approximately 100,000 families. We could deduct this figure of 1 million balboas from the expensive missions going abroad, from those holding huge sinecures in the government, [applause] and from those who have not understood the poverty our people are experiencing. [applause]

This is a lesson they taught us, and we are going to keep it in good stead. The 100,000 food bags can cost the government 600,000 balboas. If we gave these bags twice, we would be talking about 1.2 million balboas. Gentlemen, let us review the payrolls of the national government, where people with resources are entrenched and continue, continue [repeats himself] milking the Panamanian Government's cow. [long applause, chanting of slogans]

How many Panamanian children do not attend classes or do so malnourished because they do not have anything to eat in their homes and do not have clothing to wear or a simple uniform to take to their classes? The education minister must combat this problem. I was already proposing that uniforms be donated. We are not going to take toys to children in rural areas without also giving them shoes and uniforms, something to wear and eat. We cannot continue giving humiliating gifts to our people. [applause]

Therefore, we must expedite what I have always called a real opportunity to attend school. This does not mean opening classrooms; it means giving poor youths the opportunity to attend school by giving them food, clothing, and working and teaching material. That is a real chance; anything else is a deceptive chance. Opening a school without giving youths an opportunity is to deceive them. For a long time here we have been teaching the latest advances more frequently to those who have resources to be educated. However, the education of the Panamanian people has been deteriorating so the people who have the opportunity to educate themselves may rule us, rather than our being ruled by the majority of the Panamanian people. [applause]

If there is no health, if we do not take care of the masses with the clinics and hospitals for the people, if we do not foresee illnesses, we are not really building a nation.

We are simply annihilating a nation. This cannot continue, because those are the genuine and authentic expressions of democracy. This can be described in any which way, but this is our way of thinking, these are our feelings, and this is our commitment to our humble roots that we will always uphold with conviction and self-respect.

The economists and those guiding the economy cannot continue to think that the country must be developed by mortgaging the Republic through those who have no respect for the people's dignity. The economy must be developed with our own resources, with our friends' resources, and with the resources of fraternal countries, not the resources of enemy countries. This would allow us to lead our economy through paths of dignity, respect, and progress without submission, lowering ourselves, and losing our status as a nation. I declare to everyone that selling ourselves out for $1 is in the past; it must end now. That practice has done nothing but tarnish the Republic's honor and dignity. [applause]

I ask: What kind of prosperity do we wish to achieve? A prosperity that does not [words indistinct] us, that benefits everyone, that makes us a better nation, that opens sources of employment, and that does not sell us out.

What kind of right to work are we demanding? One that is offered with respect and received with dignity and decorum. To achieve this, the following guideline must be the Labor Ministry's goal to avoid subjugating the needy to those who want to become richer: There must be a just relationship. We are not here to destroy investors; however, we are not here to allow them to subjugate Panama's humble sons, either.

Why are we being attacked? Because there is a man who is not well liked by the U.S. President, a man who obstructs the wishes of that president. Can the problems of one man really lead a nation to discredit itself throughout the world? Gentlemen, this man is being attacked because he represents the leadership of the Defense Forces and of large popular groups in this country. This is annoying the United States; this prevents U.S. interests from taking root in our country.

The 1977 Torrijos-Carter Treaty was signed under different circumstances. Major Delgado said that when the 1977 treaty was signed, the United States was suffering from the Vietnam syndrome; the current situation in Central America and Nicaragua was nonexistent; the peoples had not awakened so much; and there were no agreements between the United States and the USSR to limit the use of nuclear weapons. Today, because of the changes produced by geopolitical (?processes), the situation of the military bases and the Panama Canal again acquires a new dimension, and it is this new dimension that they do not accept. They do not accept a return to the 1977 treaty because it threatens current U.S. military interests. That man, Manuel Antonio Noriega, is an obstacle to their remaining in Panama with the bases and the canal, especially with the bases. That man is an obstacle to their reaching new agreements. That is why they must eliminate Manuel Antonio Noriega.

I believe, however, that our problem is above U.S. interests. This continental and worldwide solidarity gives us new hopes, because the strength of small countries and the support of other peoples are on our side. You are here, and that is why we deeply thank you.

What have we learned from this crisis? We are no longer afraid of being afraid. When U.S. sanctions were mentioned here, we used to tremble and wonder: What will happen when the United States stops its financial aid? What will happen when an embargo is applied to us? What will happen when we no longer have U.S. currency at hand? So we lived trembling because of this fear.

All right, these things have now been removed from us; yet the Panamanian people are on their feet and more united than ever. [applause]

Now we say: Fear of what? No, gentlemen. The courage in our struggle and effort has underlined our dignity and strengthened our determination to be a free, independent, and sovereign country and nation. This experience, however, will make us change the course of our economy and our commercial relations with other countries. We will trade with every country that wants to trade with us. [applause] We will trade with every country willing to trade with us respectfully and with dignity.

This is part of removing our fear of being afraid. We must try to provide jobs for the jobless. There are many things to do. There are many dangerous elevators in the city's apartments. Let us make it compulsory to have two or three operators in each of these elevators. Let us make it compulsory to hire workers in certain parts of the country. Let us increase jobs however we can, because we have to defend the poor Panamanian people. We have to take care of the cities' downtrodden, the humble peasants, and the Indians. That is an obligation, and I ask the ministers who are here and who are involved in this area to present to me, in less than 15 days, a work plan that we can present to the Panamanian people. [applause]

It is true we do not have any money at this time. But very often it is ideas and heart that are required, and I know you have them. Let us, therefore, do our duty.

There is one aspect I want to mention. The presence of the world workers and trade and labor union leaders who are here clearly indicates that all the workers of the world support us; they understand our problem. This is the same understanding I expect from all Panamanian workers, private enterprise, and government employees at all levels. It is impossible for them to fail to understand. I assure them that if we cannot pay them at a given time, in cash and on time, it will not be because we want to trick them. It will be because we do not have a single centesimo available at the time. Even if we have only a single centesimo, we will distribute it to all workers, because no one will be allowed to retain a single government centesimo. This would be equivalent to high treason.

We must establish honesty in the government. [applause] Any consul who does not report his income betrays the Panamanian movement. Any employee who steals government funds betrays the homeland. Any employee who does not work when he should betrays his homeland. [applause] For this reason, I want to ask the government employees to understand the situation. If the 13th-month bonus payment has not been made, it is because we still have not been able to secure the means. But we will not avoid this payment, because it is the workers' right, and no one will take it away from them. [applause] We are simply postponing this payment because of the need to defend the homeland and so we can survive the attacks.

No one has been able to understand how we have succeeded in staying in office more than 60 days. But they cannot understand it because they have never been familiar with the Panamanian people's dignity and loftiness. They have never understood our sacrifice and love for the homeland. [applause] They seek explanations everywhere and try to find out if Libya or other countries gave us money. But no one has given us anything. What other countries have given us and what we have shown are dignity, decorum, and national courage. We have demonstrated this at all times. [applause]

I want to end this speech by asking the public employees for understanding. At the same time, I want to demand that all officials, including myself, do their duty so our words can become reality. You have the right to demand this. Please do so. [applause]

Representatives of the workers of the world, I repeat our thanks for your presence in Panama. You can rest assured that the battle we are waging for Panama's liberation is also the battle for the liberation of the American continent's peoples and of the world's oppressed peoples. We gladly offer our sacrifice, just as we accept your presence here. I hope that your stay here will be very pleasant and that you will be able to recognize the truth and to see what disinformation means. If so, you will see that any people can be the victim of disinformation. We, however, offer our share of sacrifice, because Panama has always put itself in the right place. As the center of the world and heart of the universe, Panama will continue to offer its share of sacrifice for the world and mankind. Thank you very much. [applause]

Attorney General on Opposition Plans, Arrests

PA2804172488 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1539 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] A news conference at the Attorney General's Office has just ended. The attorney general said that approximately 10 people involved in subversive plans to be carried out today have been found and arrested.

Attorney General Carlos Augusto Villalaz also said that arrest warrants for many other people have been issued and that raids on places and residences in various parts of the country have been authorized. He noted that the arrests have been made in Panama City and Chiriqui Province.

He officially confirmed that the authorities seized weapons, including revolvers, shotguns, and rifles. He said the weapons reportedly were to be used to disrupt order in the capital today.

Regarding questions from international journalists about whether or not the authorities are following legal procedures, the attorney general said that the Assistant Attorney General's Office authorized the raids and has been reporting to the attorney general.

The attorney general mentioned Bolivar Henriquez Marquez, who apparently is a Canal Area leader and is now being held incommunicado, as one of the people who could be deeply involved in subversive activities. Attorney General Villalaz was not specific about the number of raids carried out but confirmed that the offices of the Association of Panamanian Industrialists, the Association of Panamanian Dentists, the residence of a man whose last name is Bedoya, and the residence of Mrs

Lidia Maduro de Janon have been raided. He said that right now efforts are being made to obtain more evidence to initiate appropriate legal proceedings.

In answering questions from local and international journalists, the attorney general said emphatically that the law will be followed. He noted that some of the arrested are entitled to bail, habeas corpus, and other legal rights granted by the Panamanian Constitution.

According to Attorney General Villalaz, the authorities found written instructions on how to prepare Molotov cocktails and bombs, along with chemical elements and formulas and destabilization plans to be implemented in Panama City neighborhoods and in cities in the the country's interior. The destabilization plans were for implementation not only today, but also for 28, 29, and 30 April.

The attorney general said he has evidence and maps showing locations, neighborhoods, and streets where cars are to be set on fire. He said he also has a list with the names of other people who are involved and who have telephone lists and instructions on how to establish a communications network, where to call, at what time, and where to carry out anti-government demonstrations.

Further on Plans

PA2904010788 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2325 GMT 28 Apr 88

[News conference held by Attorney General Carlos Villalaz with unidentified national and international reporters; date, place not given—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpt] [Villalaz] ...where they prepared the purchases of these chemical elements. Here we have the receipts showing the sale of these chemical elements.

[Question indistinct]

[Villalaz] Excuse me?

[Question indistinct]

[Villalaz] Because of security reasons—I am going to continue carrying out those actions in those places—I cannot reveal the name of the place. It is a commercial establishment. It is a commercial establishment where all the chemical elements mentioned in this document are sold. We also found a sketch of Crusade No 27 [clandestine newsletter] that had not yet been released to the public. We also found out who composed the entire organization and what their goals are. Here we have documents showing the creation of neighborhood committees, which I spoke to you about yesterday, and which outlines the objectives and organization of the distribution, preparation, affiliation, defense, and expansion plans. It also lists the schedule of the meetings, where they would be held, and what was to be done in each neighborhood in Panama City to create instability today, tomorrow, and on Saturday. There is another important factor. I will specifically mention it to the international news media. Let us begin.

We have a manual that reads: Specifications of How the Miraflores Locks Operate. Here you have it. As you know, in this movement there are officials from the Panama Canal Commission who are Panamanians. The purpose of all this is to seek ways to adversely affect the operation of the Miraflores and Pedro Miguel locks. This is a document issued by the Panama Canal Commission, edited in March 1988. Here you have it. We also have a pamphlet called: Engineering Directory of Fort Clayton. These documents were confiscated from people who have already been arrested. One of them works for the Panama Canal Commission. Among their objectives is to create problems for the canal's operation with the purpose of seeking an excuse to say we are incapable of controlling our fellow citizens. For that reason, we have ordered the arrest of those people, because they want to create problems within our territory.

We are not going to allow evil Panamanians, involved in seditious activities, to look for more problems for Panamanian territory and for the normal development of activities in the Republic of Panama. It is our duty to maintain public order within the national territory, to ensure free traffic, and to preserve the life and property of all citizens and foreigners within the national territory as long as they comply with the laws of Panama. This is the information I wanted to disclose to you. Thank you. [passage omitted]

Riot Police Disperse Opposition Demonstration

PA2804233288 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2230 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Panama City, 28 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—The "Demonstration Against Communism" called by the opposition Civic Crusade ended up today with disturbances in Panama City after the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] riot police prevented it.

Despite the strong FDP deployment in the city's main streets—with water-hose trucks, trucks transporting troops, patrol vehicles, and two helicopters flying over the city at low altitude—opposition groups closed some streets with burning barricades.

The police agents arrested some 12 demonstrators, including women, according to figures provided by the Panamanian Human Rights Committee.

Station wagons without police identification were circulating in the area where the incidents were occurring, with people dressed in civilian clothes who showed weapons through the windows. ACAN-EFE verified that a group of 14 people dressed in civilian clothes arrived at

one of the streets where the disturbances were occurring and fired at the apartment buildings, breaking the apartment windows. It is not known if anyone was injured.

Supporters of the opposition Crusade at corners and sidewalks at one of the main streets in the city shouted slogans against communism and FDP Commander in Chief General Manuel Antonio Noriega and waved white handkerchiefs, symbols of the Crusade.

Nonetheless, the riot police rapidly dispersed these groups with tear gas; birdshot, usually shot into the open air; and "pepper gas" fired with rifles.

Groups of demonstrators started to erect burning barricades in the streets mainly in the banking center zone, interrupting the traffic in some streets, which caused traffic jams.

Motorcades were also formed, with drivers honking their car horns and waving white handkerchiefs. Groups of people on the sidewalks applauded those in the motorcade.

On some occasions, the riot police launched tear gas at the balconies of private residences, where the people shouted slogans against the government of Manuel Solis Palma, whom they describe as a "communist."

The riot police also prevented the media from filming when several riot police units entered the apartment buildings searching for demonstrators trying to escape from them, ordering the reporters to get away from the site, while they launched tear gas and birdshot into the open air, which fell on the heads of cameramen and reporters. [passage omitted]

Today's demonstration had been expressly banned by the authorities.

2 Wounded in 'Shootout'

PA2904014888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0120 GMT 29 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Panama City, 28 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—It was officially reported that two people were wounded today in a heavy shootout between opposition members and Panamanian policemen in a residential neighborhood here shortly after an opposition demonstration.

Today Captain Domitilo Cordoba, deputy director of the National Department of Investigations (DENI), told ACAN-EFE that policemen, accompanied by military troops, responded after shotguns were fired from buildings in El Cangrejo, a residential neighborhood. According to Cordoba, the officers, dressed in plainclothes and carrying M-16 rifles, responded to shots fired from rooftops.

According to this official source, those wounded, whose identities were not disclosed, were taken to Santo Tomas Hospital. Cordoba added that neighbors called the police when they heard the shots.

Cordoba said "we did not fire unless fired upon," and he added that none of the assailants were arrested because the buildings were locked from the inside, preventing entry. [passage omitted]

According to figures released by the Panamanian Human Rights Committee, the police arrested about a dozen demonstrators, including women. Once the shooting—which occurred in various parts of the neighborhood—ended, the area became deserted and calm.

Msgr McGrath Calls for Solution to Crisis

PA2804181988 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1710 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Panama City, 28 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—Today Archbishop Marcos Gregorio McGrath said it is necessary to find a solution to the country's crisis; "otherwise, the crisis will explode into violence."

In exclusive statements for ACAN-EFE, Msgr McGrath, president of the Panamanian Episcopal Conference, said that "if a solution (to the crisis) is not found in 2 or 3 weeks, the country will slide into chaos."

Regarding the economic crisis, Msgr McGrath said "we will all be losers if our national economy is destroyed; the only winners will be those who want to build a socialized militarism out of the rubble."

However, McGrath feels that a solution to the problem "is not near, because of the double negotiations" General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, is carrying out with the political opposition and the U.S. Government.

"These negotiations further complicate the process because it seems that Noriega will not agree to what the opposition wants as long as the United States does not agree to what he wants," the archbishop added. [passage omitted]

Msgr Brown on Mediation

PA2804130688 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2321 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Statement by Auxiliary Bishop Msgr Oscar Brown;date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] The church is very interested in finding a peaceful and constructive solution to the problems we are facing. From the beginning, when the church was asked to mediate in the conflict, through the archbishop, it agreed to do so. However, in practice, numerous obstacles have been found in the church's mediation. It seems there are persons or groups determined to make this mediation

fail. We have drafted a statement in which we have pointed out the steps taken by the archbishop and the difficulties found in this mediation process.

The archbishop has sought direct contacts with the government and the opposition; it has insisted on meeting with high-ranking military officials, but without any success; it has sought direct contacts with General Noriega, but has had no success. Likewise, we have seen certain things that we have been deeply concerned about and which we regret: the daily attacks on the archbishop in some government news media. They have constantly attacked the archbishop. We take this as a clear rejection of the mediation effort. By criticizing the pastoral message of the Panamanian Episcopal Conference, they have tried to ignore the fact that this is a document drafted by the 11 bishops of the Episcopal Conference and not just by the archbishop. In addition, things have gotten worse for mediation because of the frequent harassment and arrest of opposition members by the Panama Defense Forces. These are the main obstacles we have faced. We want the people to know this so they are aware that the church and its pastors are accepting the offenses that are committed against it as part of the Panamanian people's current suffering.

The church continues to pray for a peaceful understanding. Through the Episcopal Conference, the church is offering itself to reach an agreement.

As we said, there have been no contacts with Gen Noriega. We have sought them to no avail. We have held talks with Manuel Solis Palma, the minister in charge of the Presidency, but sometimes he does not return our calls. Therefore, we can say there have been only sporadic contacts with him.

The call we make at this time to the Panamanian people, a great people that is suffering the consequences of the decisions made by those in power, is that they should demand that those in power make the appropriate decisions and sit down at the dialogue table. The people should express themselves through the media they have access to such as newspapers and radio and television stations, even though we know there are limitations on them. As a way to speak up, the people have demonstrations as a recourse, but they have to be peaceful. The purpose of this demonstration should be to demand that both sides sit down and talk. It is important to find a peaceful solution to this problem. Schools are closed; hospitals lack supplies; unemployment increases; and there is no cash. It is a situation that has adversely affected the masses, and they should speak up publicly and peacefully. I believe the people should be allowed to express themselves because this is one of the ways to force those who can make decisions to make them for the benefit of the masses.

Banking Association Actions Deplored
PA2804184088 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 28 Apr 88 p 8

[Article by Luis Manuel Martinez]

[Excerpts] Edgardo Lasso Valdez holds two positions as president: He is president of the Costa Rican International Bank and the National Banking Association.

Since June, when the banks followed the orders of John Maisto [U.S. Embassy deputy chief of mission] and put aside their long years of honest and efficient work to become bastions of destabilization, Edgardo Lasso assumed the deplorable role of spokesman for the conspiracy. [passage omitted]

The entire strategy against Panama has failed, and the only two groups that stubbornly refuse to help the country are the Banking Association and the servile Crusade.

The Banking Association can no longer maintain this attitude.

Its spokesman, Edgardo Lasso Valdes, is a tool who spreads pessimism, an agent of the crisis against the will of 2.5 million people who have a right to dispose of their savings and salaries. [passage omitted]

The servile, believing the blow was a consumated fact, fabricated the crisis with their allies in the Banking Association, and now they do not even have sense enough to help clear the air that is charged with abusive language and infamy, which they achieved with Yankee financing.

It would be shameful to hold a dialogue with the defeatist bourgeoisie who did not think of the damage they were doing to this country in order to impose a provisional government and a president cut, processed, and directed by Washington.

The bankers and the oligarchs are defeated.

They will not be able to paralyze the country at any time. Mexico, Venezuela, and Ecuador supply all of the petroleum we consume.

They will not starve us to death; neigboring countries are offering food and medicine.

Banking pressure will disappear with the issuance of Panamanian currency, and the SELA (Latin American Economic System) has found Latin American banks that have offered to act as clearinghouses.

The time for street shouting, defamation, and treason is passing.

Argentina

Army Meets on Caridi U.S. Trip, Internal Issues

PY281857 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Today the Army High Command began a 48-hour meeting presided over by Army Commander General Dante Caridi. The results of Gen Caridi's visit to the United States and internal issues, such as the 1988 budget and the status of the military trials of those involved in the 1987 Easter incidents, will be discussed during the meeting.

Carlos Agrun reports from Radio Nacional's mobil unit No 4 at the Libertador Building.

[Agrun] The Army High Command has been meeting since 0800 this morning. It has been leaked that one subject of discussion was the situation of the officers and noncommissioned officers involved in the 1987 Easter uprising, whose number dropped from 111 to 101 after the preliminary legal proceedings were carried out.

Gen Caridi reported on the results of his recent visit to the United States, and he explained that the terms of the operation should be concluded in about 30 days time. [sentence as heard] Caridi mentioned the willingness of U.S. military authorities to support the Argentine Army's defense system.

As is usual during this type of meeting, the commanders of the various Army units gave a detailed report on recent developments in the units they command. Special attention was focused on the 1988 budget and the salary policy for the military sector. The Army commanders also discussed the training program for the new officers, as well as the maneuvers that will be carried out.

The meeting will continue tomorrow with a working luncheon attended by the senior generals and Defense Minister Jose Horacio Jaunarena.

New Air Force Materiel Chief Sworn In

PY281832 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Air Force Commander Brigadier Ernesto Crespo swore in new Materiel Commander Brigadier Jorge Ricardo Ruiz during a ceremony held at 0800 this morning at El Palomar Air Base.

Brigadier Ruiz will replace Brigadier Knut Andreasen, who was dismissed last Friday, 22 April, along with Brigadiers Enrique Carbo Bernardo and Alejandro Segurado.

Ruiz was commander of the air regions. He was replaced in that post by Brigadier Juan Manuel Marcial Correa Cuenca, who was also sworn in by Commander Crespo at El Palomar this morning.

Vice President Returns From Italy, GDR

PY272301 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Apr 88 p 6

[Text] Today Vice President Victor Martinez stated that there is a "favorable predisposition" both in Italy and in the GDR to make investments in Argentina, within the framework of the pertinent agreements.

Martinez made these remarks at Ezeiza airport upon returning from a visit he made to those two countries.

Martinez said that in Italy there is interest in investing "risk capital" in the leather industry and "marble lamination" in order to export these products to Italy.

Regarding the GDR, he said that country could install a self-financed "planetarium" in the country within 2 to 3 years.

He added that a commercial exchange of optical industry products could be carried out with the GDR.

Car Bomb Detonated Outside Army Headquarters

PY281419 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1204 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Apr (NA)—Today police sources reported that a medium-sized explosive device was detonated last night by members of the Bomb Squad. The bomb was found in the trunk of a Dodge 1500 car, license plate No C-806,079, which was parked by two people in front of the Libertador Building, Army headquarters.

The incident occurred at approximately 2200 on 27 April after the car had been parked for more than 1 hour in front of the building and the delay in the return of the driver caught the attention of a guard, who decided to report the fact to his superiors.

A medium-sized bomb was found in the trunk of the car when it was inspected, and the Bomb Squad was alerted at once.

Traffic along the avenue had to be detoured in order to carry out the dangerous task, and authorities are now investigating the identities of the people who parked the car used in the failed attack.

Brazil

Nuclebras Head Criticizes Government on Budget

PY281334 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Apr 88 p 21

["From our Rio de Janeiro agency"]

[Text] "The Nuclebras budget is so small this year that it will hardly cover daily disbursements. As the budget does not provide for investment capital for major works,

Nuclebras personnel will have nothing to do but to collect their checks at the end of the month. All we have to wait for now is the government's final blow to the Brazilian-German agreement."

This irritable remark was made by David Neiva Simon, Nuclebras director, at the second nuclear energy congress, which is being held in Rio de Janeiro. He said that he is "tired of the government's disregard where Nuclebras is concerned. Since 1983 the enterprise's budget has been systematically reduced every year." He also stressed that his frustration has reached its limit, and he will remain in his post for 3 or 4 months more in order to continue his struggle to obtain more funds, but if he is not successful he will hand in his resignation because there will be nothing more he can do.

Neiva Simon stated that the initial 1988 budget for Angra II and the fuel cycling sector amounted to $350 million at a time when it was estimated that inflation would reach 60 percent. But, the government only approved $60 million, with an inflation rate estimated at 600 percent, which is hardly enough to pay the personnel.

Answering Admiral Othon Luiz Pinheiro da Silva on the possibility of greater cooperation between the official and parallel programs, Neiva Simon stated that if cooperation is to exist, then in the first place the Brazilian-German program must continue, but it is being allowed to "drift," and the only thing needed now is a final merciful blow by the government to kill it.

He stressed that up to the present time $330 million has been invested in the jet nozzle enrichening process and only $30 million more is now needed for the first cascade to be put into operation. This industrial process is currently paralyzed.

He also pointed out that the lack of funds to carry on the work has once again extended the deadline for finishing the construction of Angra II. The deadline is now 1993. It will have taken a record 17 years to construct this nuclear plant, but its equipment will not be so reliable as one would wish.

Neiva Simon stressed that a solution for Nuclebras would be to transfer a part of its assets to Eletrobras [Brazilian Electric Power Companies Inc.]. This could be implemented within 4 months, and Eletrobras would then be charged with the construction and operation of the nuclear plants. He said that a political decision has to be made and priorities have to be outlined for the sector; otherwise, there is the chance of losing all the human effort and billions of dollars that have already been invested in the nuclear program.

Arab League Group To Request Conference Help

PY281216 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Apr 88 p A-8

[Text] A mission of the Arab League headed by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tarik Aziz will arrive in Brazil on 30 April. The goal of the visit is to request the cooperation of the Brazilian Government in organizing a peace conference among Israel, Arab countries, and representatives of the Palestinians.

The Arabs are seeking the help of Brazil as well as other countries which are members of the UN Security Council, such as Algeria, Yugoslavia, and Argentina. The decision to seek the help of these countries was adopted during the 89th session of the Arab League Council of Ministers. After some consultation, FOLHA found out that the Arab League will have no difficulty in obtaining Brazil's cooperation.

Itamaraty is in favor of the organization of a peace conference and also the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territories, which is the Arabs' main objective for the conference.

However, Brazilian diplomats do not believe Israel will agree to withdraw all of its soldiers. The agenda of Aziz and his group during their visit to Brazil has still not been prepared.

It is known that Aziz' visit to Brazil will be short—1 or 2 days—and that he will meet with President Sarney. The meeting will also be attended by Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre, Itamaraty Secretary General Ambassador Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima, and the second highest-ranking member of the delegation after Aziz.

The Brazilian Government has already been told about some details of the proposal to be presented. President Sarney's direct aides have told FOLHA that the proposal will contain some suggestions to overcome possible Israeli, Arab, or Palestinian resistance to sit at the negotiating table. The document will also propose a formula under which to conduct the meeting.

The Brazilian Government believes the United States is not cooperating enough with the peace conference. Brazilian diplomats have been telling Planalto Palace that the U.S. demand, which was presented as a condition for the conference, is an impediment and not a preliminary condition for comprehending the Palestinian problem.

The United States wants the PLO to officially recognize the Israeli Government and the Israeli Government to officially recognize the PLO.

The Brazilian Foreign Ministry is convinced that the Israeli Government was taken by surprise by the rebellion during the 1st week of December 1987 by the Palestinians who live in the territories militarily occupied by Israel.

Itamaraty has received reports stating that, until early 1988, Israeli diplomatic sources and the Defense Ministry still gave their official missions and communities abroad the impression that the unrest in the occupied

territories was not caused by the PLO and that the Israeli Government believed that it demonstrated that the PLO was becoming weaker and losing its grip.

Brazilian diplomats had a very different opinion. They believed that if the upheaval was not led by the PLO, the Israeli Government would have one more problem to worry about. In addition to the PLO they would have to worry about a new command created by Palestinian youths. Israeli military action, which resulted in the murder of Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], however, gave the impression that Tel Aviv's government fears more than ever the effectiveness of the PLO. Thus, we can see that it will not be easy to comply with the U.S. demand for a peace conference.

Governments Protest Weapons Sales to Libya

PY281427 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Apr 88 p A4

[By special Brasilia correspondent Roberto Lopes]

[Text] Over the past 3 and 1/2 months the Foreign Ministry has received nine verbal and written expressions of protest over the sale of Brazilian weapons to Libya. In addition to the United States, the Governments of England, France, Italy, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Kuwait, and Chad have voiced their objections.

FOLHA DE SAO PAULO has learned that the British position against exports of Brazilian war materiel to the regime headed by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was lodged by Sir Peter Wright, British Foreign Ministry under secretary (the second most important official regarding British foreign policy), in a recent contact with Itamaraty leaders.

Some protests, such as those from France and Italy, were submitted to the Brazilian Embassies in those countries. Others, such as those from Egypt and Iraq, were voiced directly in Brasilia.

This wave of protests is coming through precisely when the Sao Paulo company Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc.] is preparing to request authorization from the Army and Foreign Relations Ministries to send one of the two prototypes of its Osorio tank to Libya so it can be tested. This permission has not yet been requested, but Itamaraty has already been informed about Engesa's preparations.

While Engesa is considering the sale of Osorio tanks to Libya, it is also negotiating the sale of the same tank to the Governments of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, which oppose Al-Qadhdhafi's regime.

At the Army general headquarters in Brasilia, a rumor is circulating that in addition to 268 tanks being sold to Saudi Arabia, Engesa is also closing an agreement for the sale of 100 Osorio tanks to Kuwait and some 50 more to the United Arab Emirates.

One justification for Engesa's position on this issue is that the company's combined sales to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates total 418 units, and this will not make the manufacture of the Osorio tank profitably viable.

FOLHA DE SAO PAULO has learned that Engesa will only begin to see a return on the investments needed to install its assembly line with the sale of 525 units. The ideal goal for Engesa would be to sell 800 units.

Engesa President Jose Luiz Whitaker recently visited Saudi Arabia with General Diogo de Oliveira Figueiredo, chief of the important Army War Materiel Department. (Gen Diogo de Oliveira Figueiredo is the brother of former President Joao Baptista de Oliveira Figueiredo).

Both Whitaker and Figueiredo flew to Saudi Arabia aboard a small jet plane leased by Engesa. In 10 days Brazil's effort to consolidate the sale of these tanks to Saudi Arabia will receive an important boost: the new Brazilian ambassador to Saudi Arabia is Luiz Villarinho Pedroso. Until last month Pedroso was chief of the Itamaraty Commercial Promotion Department. As ambassador he will have a privileged post to follow up negotiations for the sales of the Osorio tank.

Villarinho is a confidant of Foreign Ministry Secretary General Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima, one of the forces behind Brazil's rapprochement with Iraq, the Arab country with largest imports of Brazilian weapons.

Chile

Minister on 'Campaign' To Discredit Pinochet

PY281906 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Minister Secretary General of Government Orlando Poblete has charged that the opposition is carrying out a campaign to discredit our visionary leader Augusto Pinochet.

Last night Poblete addressed a group of youths in the office of the intendant of the First Region in Iquique. He specifically referred to recent statements by Ricardo Lagos, president of the Party for Democracy, although he did not mention Lagos by name.

[Begin Poblete recording, in progress] ...and besides that, we have a visionary leader who has been able to lead the country through the new constitutional system. The opposition is now resorting to a campaign to discredit our leader and his government.

Since the opposition has been unable to objectively compare its own achievements with those of Pinochet, or to compete with him in a free and democratic process, it has now resorted to a campaign to discredit and insult our government leader. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Supreme Court Rejects Letelier Case Petition

PY280304 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Text] The Supreme Court of Justice has rejected a petition filed by an attorney representing the United States concerning a rogatory letter for General Hector Orozco.

Attorney Alfredo Echeverry had asked for the approval of all the 200 questions contained in the aforementioned document drawn up in the United States. The Supreme Court of Justice has already approved just 12 of the 200 questions contained in the rogatory letter. In its ruling, the Supreme Court of Justice also ordered that the rogatory letter be returned to the lower criminal court for the latter to send it to Gen Orozco.

The court said that there is no unclear point or transcription or numerical calculation error that must be confirmed. Thus, the Supreme Court ejected a petition for correction [recurso de rectificacion] filed by Echeverry, an attorney who represents U.S. interests in Chile.

Notwithstanding that, the Supreme Court's ruling establishes that, if the sides ask for it, omissions or transcription or numerical calculation errors that appear in the proceedings can be corrected.

Poll: Most Believe Junta To Nominate Pinochet

PY280350 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Apr 88

[Text] The latest Gallup survey indicates that 62.4 percent of the population believe that the commander in chief of the Armed Forces and the forces of order will nominate President Pinochet as the plebiscite candidate.

The survey also indicates that 6 out of every 10 Chileans believe that the Government Junta will nominate President Pinochet as their candidate for the plebiscite. According to a report released today, 47 percent of the people believe he is the most qualified man to be nominated.

The survey was conducted by Gallup Chile from 15 March to 15 April and is representative of a population of 6,216,000 people. This representative total was arrived at by surveying 2,419 people, 10.6 percent of whom were from the high-income socioeconomic sector, 44.3 percent from the middle-income socioeconomic sector, and 45.1 percent from the low-income socioeconomic sector.

Nationwide, the survey indicates that 62.4 percent of Chileans believe President Pinochet will be the nominee, 18 percent believe someone else will be nominated, and 19.6 percent are undecided.

A total of 63.8 percent of the women polled believe the current head of state will be the nominee, 17 percent believe someone else will be nominated, and 19.2 percent are undecided.

Colombia

3 Soldiers, 10 Rebels Die in Clash Near Caqueta

PA2804154988 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Bogota—A total of 23 people died as a result of violence in different parts of the country during the last 24 hours.

Among the victims are 3 military men, 2 teachers, 3 farm owners, 2 businessmen, several peasants, and at least 10 guerrillas.

In the rural area of the [name indistinct] municipality, on the border with Caqueta, troops of the Magadalena Battalion clashed extensively with M-19 members. At the end of the fight, 3 soldiers were dead and 10 subversives were killed.

At this moment reinforcement units belonging to the 9th Brigade based in Neiva are combing and checking the whole area, trying to locate the insurgent column, which fled toward the Caqueta jungle area.

The police also reported that in Monteria, the capital of Cordoba, teachers Orlando Manuel Colon Hernandez and Rafael Duque Perea were shot to death by unknown individuals when the teachers were leaving the Jose Maria Cordoba School.

Protesters Leave UN Offices Without Incident

PA2804141588 Paris AFP in Spanish 1346 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] Bogota, 28 Apr (AFP)—The UN offices in Bogota, which were peacefully occupied yesterday by approximately 35 people, were evacuated without incident today at 1324 GMT.

The "refugees for life and democracy," as the self-styled group that occupied the UN headquarters for 22 hours calls itself, reported the disappearance of many people in Colombia during the last few years.

The evacuation occurred in complete calm and in the presence of several UN officials and Colombian leftist leaders. [passage indistinct]

Peru

State of Emergency Extended in Castrovirreyna

PY281336 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Apr 88

[Text] The state of emergency in Castrovirreyna Province in Huancavelica Department has been extended for 20 days, according to Decree No 019-88-IN.

This means that the individual rights specified in clauses No 7, 9, 10, and 20 of Article 2 of the Constitution will remain suspended.